مكتبة الأصل

THE TIMES

No. 66,486
TUESDAY APRIL 13 1999
http://www.the-times.co.uk



Chris Woodhead, the sixth-former and his ex-wife
Libby Purves
page 18



EXTRA COVER

16 page cricket supplement

When a teenager goes bankrupt
page 13



30p EVERY WEEKDAY

FREE BOOKS FOR SCHOOLS token page 26 check your scores page 46

Highest civilian toll of war to date

Passenger train hit in Nato raid

By Tom Walker, Charles Bremner, Philip Webster and Michael Evans

NATO admitted last night that a missile attack on a railway bridge south of Belgrade had struck a passenger train. At least nine people were reported to have been killed and another 16 injured.

The Yugoslav Army and local authorities in southern Serbia searched for survivors amid the wreckage of the train, which was hit in a ravine near the Macedonian border.

A Nato official said the bridge near Leskovac was a military target. "There was no intent to hit the train, we deeply regret any loss of life," he said.

Colonal Dragan Velickovic of the Yugoslav Army press centre in Belgrade, said the train had been running from the southern town of Vranje north towards Nis yesterday morning when a Nato jet fired a missile that struck overhead power cables.

The train ground to a halt on a bridge in the Grdelica ravine, adjacent to a road bridge. The missile attack appeared to have cut the train in half, partly dragging the coaches down into the gorge.



According to the Yugoslav state-run Tanjug news agency, the second coach was wrecked and three others caught fire and were derailed. All the bodies recovered were said to have been badly burnt. The injured were taken to a hospital in Leskovac.

Dejan Petkovic, a 19-year-old student from Nis, told the news agency he was in the undamaged first carriage and suffered only minor injuries. He described hearing what sounded like an aircraft nearby and then a single explosion, followed by four detonations.

Svetolik Kostadinovic, director of the railways, originally claimed that the train was travelling from Belgrade to Salonika in Greece and that there were foreigners on board. But this was denied by a Greek railway company, which said that the Belgrade to Salonika train had arrived safely.

The most serious incidence of civilian casualties in three weeks of Nato airstrikes came as as alliance foreign ministers in Brussels unanimously reaffirmed their determination to pursue the bombing campaign.

They also voiced alarm over the plight of up to 700,000 ethnic Albanian refugees who, they said, were being deliberately starved and deprived of shelter and medicine inside Kosovo.

Madeleine Albright, the US Secretary of State said: "If these people are allowed to die, we will hold the Serbian authorities accountable."

Nato military officials were ordered to work on plans for helping the internal refugees and the Greek Air Force is expected to drop humanitarian supplies to them. A similar airdrop was carried out by Nato aircraft to help victims of the Bosnian war five years ago.

Taking stock of the three-week air campaign, the ministers accused President Milosevic of "appalling violations of human rights and "criminally irresponsible policies". Their statement added: "Nato's air strikes will be pursued until President Milosevic accedes to the demands of the international community."

Javier Solana, the Nato Secretary-General, said: "Milosevic is losing and he knows it. Nato is united. We have justice on our side and we will prevail."

The ministers also warned Mr Milosevic that Nato would respond severely to any attack on Albania or other neighbouring states. There were further reports yesterday of Yugoslav forces shelling over the border into Albania.

While demonstrating allied resolve to carry on with the air campaign, the ministers held open the door for diplomacy and urged Russia to join in efforts to bring peace. Hopes are being pinned on a meeting in Oslo today between Ms Albright and Igor Ivanov, the Russian Foreign Minister.

Ms Albright gave the first hint that a partitioning of Kosovo was being given consideration, although she said it was not an option she favoured. "There are a number of ideas not yet settled on," she said.

The foreign ministers again ruled out the possibility of a Nato ground force fighting its way into Kosovo. However, General Sir Charles Guthrie, the Chief of the Defence Staff, told a press conference in London: "As of today, neither Nato nor the UK have any plans for an opposed invasion of Kosovo by force. But this does not mean to say that over many months we have not been considering and making contingency plans for the use of ground troops."

He added: "We have considered many scenarios. . .we are not currently planning to implement any of these options."

Tony Blair — who yesterday said that Nato would carry on pounding Mr Milosevic's war machine "day after day" until its objectives were met — will today tell MPs that Nato could face a long haul in its air campaign.

He said: "After the appalling scenes of suffering among the refugees it would be wrong for us to compromise in any shape or form on the objectives which Nato has set out.

"It is essential that we do not weaken in our resolve to see every single part of the Nato objectives secured."

☐ The joint appeal by 12 leading charities for Kosovan refugees has raised £10 million in six days. Donations can be made by telephone on 0870 6060 900 or on 0990 222 233.

PAOLO COCCO/Reuters



US special combat helicopters arriving in Albania yesterday. Aircraft bringing men and equipment landed every 15 minutes

SAS may be on the ground in Kosovo

By Michael Evans
Defence Editor

SPECIAL forces troops in Kosovo are now believed to be playing a crucial role in helping Nato aircraft to bomb targets through thick cloud.

Although hitting Yugoslav military targets with laser-guided bombs remains the primary function of the Nato aircraft, poor weather has made it imperative to find an alternative method of bombing when cloud conceals the target.

After nearly three weeks of airstrikes during which bombing raids have had to be called off on about a dozen occasions because of bad weather, Nato military chiefs decided that it was necessary to start dropping unguided bombs through the clouds.

The decision meant that improved intelligence information on targets had to be acquired from the ground as well as from satellite imagery and reconnaissance aircraft.

Without giving any details, General Sir Charles Guthrie, the Chief of the Defence Staff, said yesterday that intelligence on targets was now "much better" than it was two weeks ago, and that it was coming "from the ground, from satellites and from aircraft". RAF Harrier GR7s "engaged targets" through cloud for the first time in the air campaign on Sunday.

Britain never confirms or denies operations carried out by the Special Air Service. But it can be assumed that special forces elements are in Kosovo and that they are providing key intelligence to back up the rapidly-improving picture of where the Yugoslav 3rd Army forces are located.

The role of the SAS would be to hunt for and then pinpoint the disposition of Yugoslav troops and armoured units, as well as fixed military sites, and provide precise grid references for bomber pilots.

ON OTHER PAGES

"I have to go to the police and buy them Coc-Cola and whisky to go into places and take sick people out. I have to make with the beautiful eyes and flirt to get things."
A refugee camp doctor talks to Stephen Farrell, page 6

The Yugoslav Parliament voted to apply for membership of a confederation with Russia and Belarus, while talk of such a union "ruined" the Duma's plans to get rid of President Yeltsin. It decided to postpone impeachment proceedings indefinitely.
Tom Walker and Anna Blundy report on page 5



Peter Brookes, page 18

"This is America at its best. This is America trying to get the world to live on human terms so we can have peace."
President Clinton's pep talk, page 4

The creeping escalation of Nato ground troops in Albania has raised hopes among Kosovo's refugees there that the allied forces would be used to retake their home land.
Sam Kiley reports from Tirana on page 7

Frederick Forsyth wants the West to arm the KLA. His solution is as well-plotted as a thriller. But life is messier than fiction. *We should beware of policy based on good guys beating bigger bad gues and living happily ever after.*
Vanora Bennett writes on page 18

Buying The Times overseas
Austria Sch 50; Belgium B Frs 110; Canada $3.50; Canaries Pts 400; Cyprus C£1.20; Denmark Dkr 22.00; Finland Fmk 30.50; France FR 17.00; Germany DM 5.50; Gibraltar 90p; Greece Dr 750; Netherlands Fl 6.50; Italy L 5,000; Luxembourg Lf 110; Madeira Esc 350; Malta 80c; Morocco Dir 30.00; Norway Kr 25.00; Portugal Esc 350, Spain Pts 400; Sweden Skr 25.00; Switzerland S Frs 6.00; Tunisia Din 3.200; USA $7.50.
Periodicals Postage Paid at Rahway NJ Postmaster Send address corrections to: The Times c/o Mercury International 365 Blair Road Avenel NJ 07001.

15
9 770140 046220

Lorry drivers promise more city centre jams in fuel taxes protest

By Arthur Leathley, Adam Sherwin and Russell Jenkins

LORRY drivers last night threatened fresh disruption after a nationwide protest which jammed motorways and roads in six city centres.

Growing anger among lorry drivers over recent tax rises prompted the second major protest in three weeks, with farmers and taxi drivers joining the demonstration in some areas.

Ministers responded by indicating that help could be given to British hauliers facing difficulty in competing against European rivals. One possible option is that new taxes could be imposed on overseas drivers working in Britain.

However Frank Stears, leader of the Trans-Action protest group behind the demonstration said after the protests: "The question is have we got anywhere? If we haven't, something else will have to happen."

Organisers are torn over whether to target ports or repeat last month's single-site protest on the streets of Central London, a tactic that brought traffic to a standstill.

Unlike last month's protest, which drew more than 1,000 drivers to London, yesterday's action was spread out around the country. In the capital, police put the turnout at no more than 500.

In Manchester, some 270 lorries headed from Lymm in Cheshire into the city centre, causing serious hold-ups. Lorries also converged on Edinburgh, Newcastle, Middlesbrough and Exeter.

Police said no area suffered the same levels of congestion experienced by the capitasl last month.

The demonstrations are over a 10 per cent rise in fuel duty and a £2,500 tax increase on some lorries.

John Reid, the Transport Minister, criticised the action of lorry drivers who had decided to "penalise, disrupt and inconvenience the public once again". However, he made clear that ministers were prepared to look again at the competitiveness of the British haulage industry and that help might be given.

He said that he would continue to talk to leaders of the Road Haulage Association and the Freight Transport Association to agree ways of helping the industry. But he has refused to meet leaders of the Trans-Action splinter group while disruption continues.

Although he has insisted that the Government cannot "unpick" last month's Budget and reverse the tax rises, Treasury ministers are to investigate the impact of recent tax changes on the industry.

Hauliers claim that many more overseas drivers, with access to cheaper fuel, will enter Britain and undercut British companies. The most recent figures show 690,000 overseas lorries entering Britain in the year to September 1998, compared with 484,000 in 1996 and hauliers claim the increase is accelerating.

Dr Reid conceded that one possible sanction could be the introduction of a so-called "vignette" system, under which overseas lorry drivers would pay a daily charge that would not apply to British firms. A system like this operates in Austria, although the European Union may outlaw the practice if it is found to discriminate against foreign nationals.

Figures disputed, page 2
Leading article, page 19

£1billion garage deal

Sir Tom Farmer, who two days ago was the 315th wealthiest man in Britain, leapfrogged at least 50 places by selling his Kwik-Fit chain to Ford in a £1 billion deal. Sir Tom intends to remain in full-time charge of his chain of 1,900 car repair depots in Britain and Europe...Pages 3, 27

Tapioca hope of cancer cure

The plant from which tapioca pudding is made may hold the key to an anti-cancer cure. Genes from the plant have been used to eradicate brain tumours in rats. Tests on human tissues are progressing well........Page 9

Election plan

Tony Blair put Labour's economic record at the heart of his strategy for European, Scottish and Welsh elections..Page 12

YOU'VE GOT TO BE MAD TO pay twice as much AS YOU NEED TO for phone calls.

2X

THINK 1st

If you're happy to let BT make another £3.2 BILLION profit this year, the penny obviously hasn't dropped. First Telecom can save you 50% off national and international calls to over 230 countries. We won't need to touch your existing phone, line or number. Just add First Telecom's service to your existing BT phone and join our 300,000 customers. So don't get mad. Get even.

0800 458 5858

FIRST TELECOM
www.first-telecom.com

SAVINGS BASED ON COMPARISONS BETWEEN FIRST TELECOM EASY PHONE AND BT STANDARD RATES. CORRECT AS AT 6/1/99.

Haulage dispute miles from ending

THE ANNUAL COST

UK: corporation tax £126,961; labour £909,240; vehicle tax £160,500; fuel £2,775,000: total £3,971,701
France: corporation tax £188,423; labour £1,409,322; vehicle tax £24,300; fuel £1,650,000: total £3,272,045
The Netherlands: corporation tax £164,988; labour £1,591,170; vehicle tax £33,500; fuel £1,687,000: total £3,476,658
Belgium: corporation tax £197,184; labour £1,773,018; vehicle tax £46,450; fuel £1,612,500: total £3,629,152

Two sides cannot agree on basic facts, reports Arthur Leathley

THE dispute between hauliers and ministers intensified yesterday with the two sides unable to agree even on basic facts about the effect of taxes.

The Government insisted that British haulage companies could operate more cheaply than rivals overseas because of lower employment costs and taxation.

Haulage industry leaders said that the figures failed to take into account the increasingly heavy burden of British taxes on fuel and vehicles, which represents one third of the overall cost of running a haulage business.

John Reid, the Transport Minister, was adamant that haulage firms with a fleet of 50 vehicles could save up to £819,000 a year compared with the cost of running a company in Belgium. He also cited higher costs in The Netherlands, France and Germany as undermining the haulage industry's argument that the Government was making British hauliers uncompetitive.

Hauliers then produced costings showing the huge additional price of buying fuel and taxing vehicles in this country. These suggested that overall it could cost firms some £700,000 more a year to operate 50 lorries in Britain than it would in France.

The gap between the two sides, even on basic costings, is so large that a working forum has been set up to try to agree some common ground. Treasury ministers have admitted that detailed international comparisons have not been conducted.

The dispute over the competitiveness of the British haulage industry is deeper than a spat over taxation levels. Dr Reid has infuriated many hauliers by telling them that they are not efficient enough and that up to one quarter of lorries are running empty.

Lorry drivers insist that the heavy cost of fuel in Britain can add more than £1 million a year to the cost of running 50 lorries. But even that is disputed by ministers, who argue that companies with large fleets are often operating internationally and so have the same opportunity as overseas competitors to buy fuel more cheaply.

However, even the issue of fuel taxes is not as simple as it appears. While a French driver working only in France might save £9,000 a year on fuel against his British rival driving in Britain, he would spend some £7,500 a year in road tolls that are not imposed in Britain.

Treasury officials concede that huge amounts of diesel are now bought by British firms overseas, although they dispute claims made by the hauliers that this costs the Treasury £400 million in lost revenue.

However, many lorry drivers who travel regularly to mainland Europe say that they never refuel their vehicles in Britain.

Hauliers also claim that many firms are considering "flagging out": registering their vehicles in overseas countries to save thousands of pounds in vehicle tax levied here.

In fact, very few have actually done so, with many being deterred by bureaucratic complexities and the legal costs of overseas registration.

Drivers' leader puts his big mouth in gear

BY ADAM SHERWIN

AS Frank Stears, the man who tried to bring Britain's cities to a standstill, stood patiently outside the barred gates to Downing Street, he issued a warning to Tony Blair: "The Government can ignore us but we will be back with more and more trucks."

The 51-year-old haulier from Faversham in Kent has found himself the unlikely leader of a national movement. And with a thousand lorry drivers apparently ready to block the streets at his command he believes that the Prime Minister will soon have to pay attention.

His critics say he is a dangerous rabble rouser but Mr Stears says all he wants to do is make a living. "I am not a political person but I cannot compete with the Continent with these fuel tax increases."

He employs five people at Stears Haulage, which transports steel and fertilisers. He has been a haulier for more than 20 years but he believes that things have never been so bad. "There comes a point where you have to fight for your business," he said.

Mr Stears has a couple of natural advantages that thrust him into the spotlight. "I've just got a bigger mouth. I can shout more. I don't want to be a figurehead but I did get a sense of pride seeing all the truckers outside Downing Street."

Trans-Action, Mr Stears's protest group, began from a small demonstration in Kent. Within six months he had attracted a thousand members, who pay £25 to join and are given advance notification by post and phone about actions such as yesterday's.

Mr Stears believed that if the Government heard the voice of ordinary hauliers, a compromise could be reached. He now realises that that was naive.

"The Government will not take us seriously. They think we are a bunch of yobs. The only way we will go away is when we are all bankrupt," he said.

It is the sort of rabble-rousing rhetoric that has not been heard since the glory days of the miners' leader Arthur Scargill. Is Mr Stears a chip off the old militant block? "I am nothing like Scargill," he bristled. "Trans-Action has a committee which takes democratic decisions. But I don't want to bring the country to its knees with blockades — I want talks."

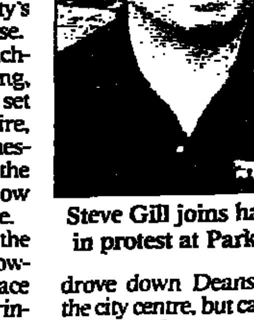
But others involved in the dispute consider him a liability. "He is doing for road haulage what Slobodan Milosevic is doing for Balkan holidays," one of his critics said.

CHRIS HARRIS

Frank Stears: leader of 1,000 lorry drivers but his critics say that he is a liability

CRAWLING CONVOY





Steve Gill joins hauliers in protest at Park Lane

A LINE of lorries five miles long brought traffic heading for west Manchester to a slow and bad-tempered crawl. The convoy, designed as a "friendly demonstration" against rising costs of road freight, upset some motorists, but the predicted gridlock of the city's centre failed to materialise.

With diesel fumes belching and horns blaring, more than 270 lorries set out from Lymm, Cheshire, at 8am. Greater Manchester Police had delayed the start for an hour to allow commuter traffic disperse.

The hauliers hogged the M56 from Cheshire, slowing traffic to a snail's pace before turning off the Princess Parkway on to the M60 and then the M602. They then followed a route agreed with the police through Salford and around the city. A breakaway group of a dozen lorries drove down Deansgate, in the city centre, but caused little disruption.

David Bratt, 61, one of the protest's organisers, said: "We are not militants and we won't be doing anything like blocking the Mersey tunnel and causing havoc."

GOODNATURED GRIDLOCK

IT WAS a very British type of protest that saw disgruntled lorry drivers bring gridlock to Central London. There were no burning blockades as there might have been had it been organised by their French counterparts. Instead frustrated commuters grumbled mildly, the protesters could not agree on a chant during the march and the rain dampened any over-heated temperaments.

Police cordoned off two lanes for lorries parked on Cumberland Place, leaving one for cars and buses to crawl down. Taxi drivers added to the cacophony of blaring horns. One driver gave a thumbs-up and said: "We are with them all the way. We are supporting them by driving slowly but people will say that is how we make our money anyway."

The speech-making rally at Marble Arch was curtailed due to a sudden downpour. Various groups saw an opportunity to cash in: one handed out a glossy brochure offering to help truck drivers to relocate to the United States.

"BEST BUY WONDER"
PC ADVISOR
BEST BUY MAY 1999

Here are just some of the reasons why PC Advisor magazine found the NEC Direction SM-500B3 to be the "BEST BUY" May 1999.

- High quality 19" NEC monitor. "Incredible 32Mb ATI Rage Fury Graphics Card."
- "Tried-and-tested pairing of a Creative SoundBlaster Card and Labtec Speakers."
- "An excellent business machine."
- In all, then, the NEC is an extremely capable power PC which has been thoughtfully designed and contains a good mix of quality components. For this price, you'd be hard pushed to match its performance.
- All our PCs are year 2000 compliant.
- Special Offer – extend your standard one year next business day on-site warranty to 3 YEARS NEXT BUSINESS DAY ON-SITE WARRANTY FOR ONLY £49 (£57.58 inc VAT).

"The NEC Direction landed at the top of the Power PC heap for several reasons: It has a fast processor, up-to-date, complementary components, a sizeable hard disk and a good price tag." PC Advisor magazine, May 1999 BEST BUY AWARD.

intel inside pentium III

NEC Direction SM-500B3
- Intel® Pentium® III Processor 500MHz
- 128Mb SDRAM
- 512KB Internal Cache
- 17GB EIDE Ultra DMA/33 Hard Drive
- 6X DVD-ROM Drive
- ATI Rage Fury AGP Graphics Accelerator with 32Mb SDRAM Video Memory
- 19" NEC Colour Monitor (0.26 dot pitch; 18.0" viewable)
- SoundBlaster Live Value 256 Sound Card
- Labtec LS2632 Speakers, Subwoofer, Headphones & Mic
- Diamond 56Kbps Modem
- Logitech Roller Mouse, Keyboard
- Microsoft® Windows 98, McAfee VirusScan, Adobe Acrobat Reader
- Microsoft® Word 97, MS Works 4.5, Corel Draw 7 + Clipart Library (33,000 images), IBM ViaVoice
- 12 MONTHS NEXT BUSINESS DAY ON-SITE WARRANTY

£1499 EX VAT
£1795.40 INCLUDING DELIVERY & VAT

NEC DIRECT

Ring NEC Direct on 0870 0106322

Missiles discovery adds pressure to Ulster peace talks

Shadow of IRA arms hangs over the last-ditch negotiations in Belfast, reports Martin Fletcher

THE British and Irish Governments will today resume their last-ditch effort to save the Good Friday peace accord. Unionists claim the case for disarmament has been strengthened by new evidence that the IRA has tested surface-to-air missiles.

The RUC confirmed yesterday that it found two used battery packs for the Sam 7 missiles in a field near Pomeroy in Co Tyrone on Saturday night. Security sources said the packs were unearthed by cattle. It was unclear whether they had been used recently or some time ago.

The IRA acquired several of the Russian-made missiles through Libyan intermediaries some years ago to attack military helicopters. The missiles are shoulder-launched and can be guided towards targets up to two miles away. It is believed the IRA has so far fired one in anger, in 1991.

The Ulster Unionists said the discovery reinforced their case for IRA disarmament but Sinn Fein intends to tell the Governments today that their proposals for breaking the deadlock over decommissioning, spelt out in the Hillsborough Declaration of April 1, are unacceptable.

"The Hillsborough Declaration turns an obligation to use our influence to secure decommissioning into an obligation to deliver decommissioning," a party spokesman said. "Rewriting the Good Friday agreement is not a proposition we will accept." Government sources said that Mo Mowlam, the Northern Ireland Secretary, and David Andrews, the Irish Foreign Minister, would hear the parties' responses to the declaration today before Tony Blair and Bertie Ahern, the Irish Prime Minister, decided whether to return to Northern Ireland themselves on Thursday.

"We need to assess where the parties are after the Easter break and see how much room for progress there is. There's no point in them coming just for the sake of coming," one senior official said. "The moment of truth is upon us."

Officials are anxious to see whether Sinn Fein leaders will take a softer line on decommissioning in private, and say that the Government is ready to unveil its vision of a demilitarised Northern Ireland. In public, Sinn Fein insists that it has no room for manoeuvre on the issue.

The Ulster Unionist Party's assembly group agreed yesterday that the declaration provided "a basis for negotiation", but said it wanted clarification on several points.

It reiterated its demand for a credible and verifiable start to decommissioning before Sinn Fein could join the executive and declared: "The moment of truth has arrived for those paramilitaries who signed up to the agreement and have been extracting the benefits from it for the past year. It is time for them to demonstrate their commitment to peace and to democracy."

UN expert raises fears over RUC

BY MARTIN FLETCHER, CHIEF IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

A SENIOR United Nations investigator cast doubt yesterday on the integrity of the RUC's investigation into the murder last month of Rosemary Nelson, the human rights lawyer.

In a presentation to the UN Human Rights Commission in Geneva, Param Cumaraswamy, the UN's special rapporteur, also backed calls for an independent inquiry into the 1989 murder of Pat Finucane, another Ulster lawyer who represented republicans.

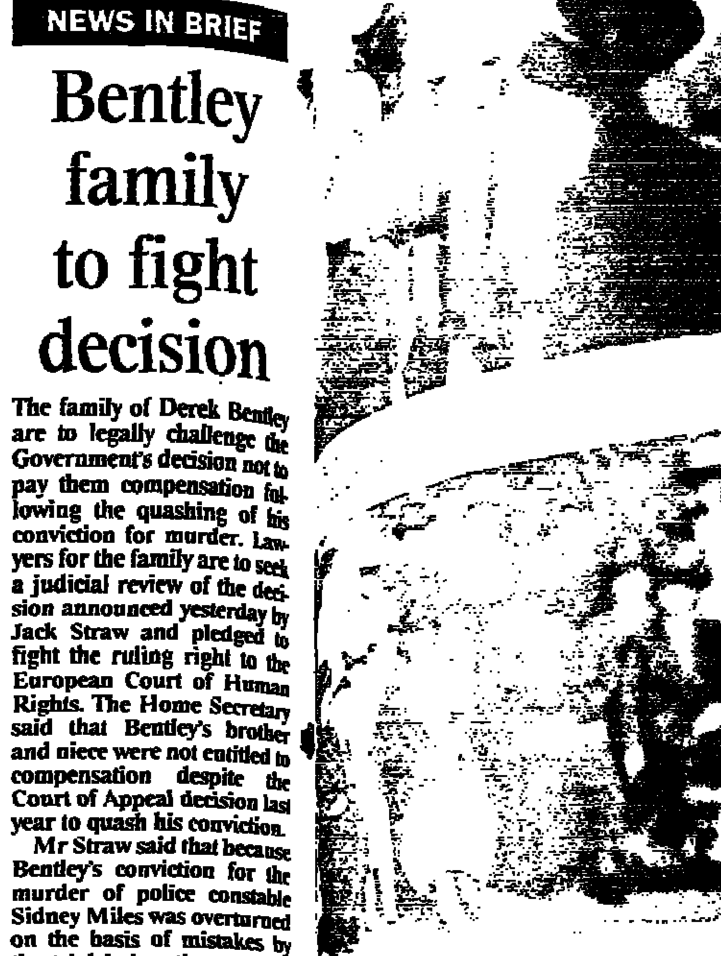
Mr Finucane and Mrs Nelson were killed by loyalist paramilitaries and in both cases there were allegations of security force collusion.

Five human rights organisations led by Amnesty International also called yesterday for independent inquiries into the two murders but the Northern Ireland Office all but ruled out an independent inquiry into Mrs Nelson's death by reiterating its support for the appointment of Colin Port, Norfolk's Deputy Chief Constable, to lead the murder hunt.

Mr Cumaraswamy, a Malaysian jurist, expressed concern that the RUC's involvement could "affect and taint the impartiality and credibility of the investigation".

He also claimed there was "prima facie evidence" that the security forces colluded with the Ulster Freedom Fighters in the murder of Mr Finucane.

NEWS IN BRIEF



Bentley family to fight decision

The family of Derek Bentley are to legally challenge the Government's decision not to pay them compensation following the quashing of his conviction for murder. Lawyers for the family are to seek a judicial review of the decision announced yesterday by Jack Straw and pledged to fight the ruling right to the European Court of Human Rights. The Home Secretary said that Bentley's brother and niece were not entitled to compensation despite the Court of Appeal decision last year to quash his conviction.

Mr Straw said that because Bentley's conviction for the murder of police constable Sidney Miles was overturned on the basis of mistakes by the trial judge, the case was outside the compensation scheme. He said there were no other "sufficiently exceptional" circumstances to merit a payment.

Age of consent law faces delay

Government plans to reduce the age of homosexual consent from 18 to 16 could be delayed for more than a year if peers vote against the move tonight. Peers of all parties are preparing to back an amendment to the Sexual Offences (Amendment) Bill that would kill it outright. If the Government loses, ministers say they will invoke the Parliament Acts to force the Bill onto the statute book but that would delay the law at least until next spring.

Schools lose out on class targets

Three thousand places at primary schools have been lost because of Labour's pledge that no under-sevens class will have more than 30 children by 2001. The schools were unable to expand to provide required classroom space. But David Blunkett, Education Secretary, said 15,000 places had been created at schools that had been able to expand. In January 356,000 infant school pupils were in classes of more than 30, compared with 485,000 the previous year.

New citizens 'should celebrate'

Jack Straw yesterday called for public ceremonies at which people would celebrate becoming new citizens of the United Kingdom. The Home Secretary said becoming a British citizen was "something worth celebrating" and should be formally recognised at events held regularly around the country. Mr Straw said the ceremonies would replace the existing system under which a new citizen gets a certificate sent through the post.

GPs trained for drugs epidemic

Doctors are to be trained to treat drug addicts under new guidelines because drug misuse is so common that GPs have to regard it as a common illness. In a six month period 30,000 people currently seek medical help. The Government has updated eight-year-old guidelines and has allocated £50 million towards developing support services. More than half of those seeking help from doctors are in their twenties and one in seven is in their teens.

Police relax Stonehenge bar

For the first time in six years police will not be enforcing a four-mile "exclusion zone" around Stonehenge during the summer solstice. The decision, which follows a ruling by the House of Lords, has led to fears of a "hippy" invasion with thousands of revellers converging on the ancient monument. English Heritage originally banned the public from the stone circle in 1988 after years of clashes between police and people attending a pop festival.

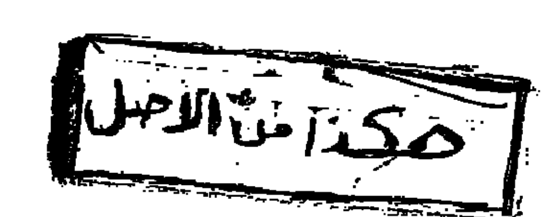
Inside Section 2



Coping with cybercrime, searching for a Eurobail system, taking the class out of being a JP

Law & appointments: pages 37-43

مكتبة الأصل





They still wear hats: a mock WI meeting from the calendar and, below, Welsh members of the first WI





"They're not like ordinary middle-aged women": members of the Yorkshire WI branch who posed for the calendar

Men show taste for WI models of propriety

By Helen Rumbelow

MEN of a certain age were hurrying yesterday to buy a calendar that, while unlikely to replace the usual *collection of garage wall pin-ups*, nevertheless shows life a little in the raw. It was launched at elevenses yesterday by 12 members of a Yorkshire village Women's Institute featured in semi-decorous poses on its pages, and by teatime more than 500 had been sold to "older gentlemen".

The women, aged 45 to 65, are from the Rylstone branch, near *Skipton. Tricia Stewart, 50, who is* Miss October, partly shielded by an apple press, said: "We've all been amazed at the reaction: we've been in hot demand. It's a celebration of older women done tastefully that I think men have been impressed by." The Rev Keith Hopper, the local Methodist minister, said: "I think it is a brilliant thing they have done. Hopefully it will make people *laugh. I might even consider* putting it up at home."

Terry Logan, the photographer and husband of Miss July, 55-year-old Linda, an artist shown behind her easel, said: "There's no smuttiness, which is refreshing. I think they're attractive photographs as they're not frightened of their bodies."

The calendar was conceived to cheer a member's husband, John Baker, who was dying of leukemia. Natalie Atkins, manager of one of the local pubs, said: "We think it's fantastic, it's so tasteful and so funny. John would have loved it. They are not like ordinary middle-aged women, they're young at heart and enjoy every minute of life."

Rita Swallow, vice-chairwoman of the North Yorkshire West Federation of the WI, said that the calendar would help with the institute's change of image. "We have been involved from very early on, as has headquarters down in London. It shows we can be a lot of fun."

RADICAL ROOTS OF AN INSTITUTION

The "Jam and Jerusalem" movement had radical beginnings when it was formed in 1915, inspired by progressive women in Canada. The aim of the first WI members was to help rural women to support the war effort, with one of the first lectures on jam-making. A competition was held in the 1920s to find a theme song. No decision was made, but *Jerusalem* was sung at the 1924 annual meeting and has been associated with it ever since.

There are now 250,000 members, including the Queen and her mother, who has been a member of the Sandringham chapter since 1937. The WI has had a change of image and has its own school, Denham College, near Oxford, which offers members courses in ballroom dancing, assertiveness and the history of aviation.

You can't get richer than Mr Kwik-Fit

Tycoon leaps up wealth list after netting £77m from sale of his tyre and exhaust chain

By Alan Hamilton, Gillian Harris and Sarah Cunninngham

ONLY two days ago, Sir Tom Farmer was listed in *The Sunday Times* Rich List as the 315th wealthiest man in Britain with an estimated fortune of £75 million. By lunchtime yesterday he had leapfrogged at least 50 places with the acquisition of a further £77.3 million, all of it in folding money.

By selling his Kwik-Fit tyre and exhaust chain to the Ford motor company in a £1 billion deal, the self-made tycoon from the humblest roots in Edinburgh's Leith district has hurdled the likes of Sir Frank Williams, the motor racing team owner, the pop star Sting and Chris Evans, the radio presenter, each worth a mere £85 million or so, to sit beside the former Beatle George Harrison in the premier league of the seriously rich.

Sir Tom, 58, is a devout Roman Catholic with a Presbyterian outlook on wealth and an incurable dose of the Protestant work ethic. He intends to remain in full-time charge of his chain of 1,900 car repair depots strung across Britain, Ireland and continental Europe.

Having shot overnight from Scotland's 23rd richest man to its 17th, Sir Tom said yesterday that he expected little more time than before to pursue his outside interests, extensive though they are. The trouble with retirement, he said on a previous occasion, is that you never get a day off.

"I'll remain chairman and chief executive, and I'll be doing some work for Ford. Ford has its own strategy and plans and, if the deal gets the go-ahead from shareholders, we'll sit down and discuss it," he said.

In his few spare moments, Sir Tom is a philanthropist of note. He leads annual pilgrimages of sick children to Lourdes from his local Catholic church in Leith, and holds the Catholic order of Knight Commander with Star of the Order of St Gregory, the highest award his Church can bestow on a layman.

He supports the Conservative Party with donations, although says he favours an independent Scotland. He was one of the first to take action to aid Kosovan refugees, raising £1.5 million in emergency aid in only four days.

But his most trying charity is his local football club, Hibernian, which his grandfather had a hand in founding in 1875 and which he bought in 1992 to bail it out of debt. It has since rewarded him with ingratitude. Fans complain that he has not invested enough, and he is under pressure to tip in more money or resign.

Sir Tom calls Hibernian his "social investment", but takes no active part in running the club, which has just won promotion back into the Premier League after being relegated last year. He is rarely seen at matches, preferring to spend his Saturday afternoons making surprise check-up visits to branches of his exhaust replacement empire, according to colleagues.

He enjoys foreign travel, having once backpacked with his son around China, returning on the Trans-Siberian Railway. He plays tennis and skis.

Sir Tom was born in one of the poorer districts of the Scottish capital, the youngest of seven children of a shipping agent taking home £5 a week. He now lives with his wife, Anne, in Barnton, the Weybridge of Edinburgh, and drives a Mercedes. He left Holy Cross Academy in Leith shortly before his 15th birthday, when his mother saw an advertisement for a store boy to work in a tyre factory. He would have preferred to join his brother in the Merchant Navy, but colour blindness prevented him.

At 24 he started his own tyre and car accessory company, selling it four years later for £450,000. He and his wife, whom he had met at school, and their two children retired to California, but boredom got the better of him. The family returned to Edinburgh and Sir Tom launched Kwik-Fit in 1971. He sold it three years later for £750,000, but, when the new owners failed to make a go of it, he bought it back.

The firm was sold yesterday in a £1 billion deal

Kwik-Fit expansion, page 27



Sir Tom Farmer, centre, with his wife, Anne, and John, one of his two children

De-ISA

We'll make everything clear.

Now that Individual Savings Accounts have replaced TESSAs and PEPs, it's important to be aware of your new tax free savings options. That's why we have advisers on hand to talk you through our full range of ISAs in plain English.

For straightforward advice and a free video guide, pop into any Abbey National branch or call the number below. (Lines are open Monday to Friday, 8am to 9pm and Saturday, 8am to 4pm.)

0800 174 635

ISAs in Plain English

ABBEY NATIONAL®

Because life's complicated enough.

S44

ABBEY NATIONAL PLC, WHICH IS REGULATED BY THE PERSONAL INVESTMENT AUTHORITY, ONLY SELLS ITS OWN LIFE ASSURANCE, PENSIONS AND COLLECTIVE INVESTMENT SCHEME PRODUCTS.

The value of tax benefits depends on your own personal financial circumstances and may be affected by future changes in legislation. ISA products are provided by Abbey National PEP and ISA Managers Limited, which is regulated by IMRO. To help us to improve our service, we may record or monitor phone calls. Abbey National, the Umbrella Couple symbol and Because life's complicated enough are trademarks of Abbey National plc. Abbey National plc, Registered Office: Abbey House, Baker Street, London NW1 6XL. United Kingdom Telephone: 0870 607 6000.

US troops get pep talk and tax break

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN WASHINGTON

LARRY DOWNING / REUTERS

President Clinton at a Louisiana air base yesterday where he praised B52 crews for their role in the Balkans conflict

PRESIDENT Clinton delivered a pep talk and a tax-break to American troops yesterday as Congress launched into an intense debate on the conflict with Yugoslavia: how best to win it, whether to restrict it and how to pay for it.

In a rallying speech to the crews of B52 bombers, air force personnel and their families at Barksdale Air Force Base in Louisiana, Mr Clinton announced that US troops serving in the Balkans would be granted tax exemptions for the duration of the conflict and painted the Nato assault on Yugoslavia as an American crusade against evil.

"This is America at its best ... this is America trying to get the world to live on human terms so we can have peace and freedom in Europe and our people will not be called to fight a wider war for someone else's madness," he said.

But hawks and doves, returning to the political fray after a two-week Easter break, are preparing for confrontation on Capitol Hill, where disagreement over the possible use of ground troops reflects public uncertainty as well as political divisions over Nato strategy.

With many congressional leaders demanding tougher action in Yugoslavia, US officials have begun openly discussing the possible deployment of ground troops; but Mr Clinton met a group of senior legislators yesterday to discuss the crisis and push the Administration's line that airstrikes will succeed if given adequate time.

John McCain, the Republican senator and presidential hopeful, has emerged as the unofficial spokesman for the hawks. Mr McCain was part of the bipartisan congressional delegation that accompanied William Cohen, the Defence Secretary, to Europe last weekend, and he returned demanding a bipartisan resolution "that authorises the President to use all means necessary" to win, including ground troops.

Those views are echoed by several leading Democrats, including Senator Joseph Lieberman, who said: "We want [President] Milosevic to know that we are not going to stop with the air war if that doesn't work." Mr Lieberman said that Nato would soon draw up plans for ground troops and predicted "the 'thinking' that Nato describes will become actual planning".

Although some of Mr Clinton's supporters have criticised Nato for appearing to rule out ground troops from the outset, congressional support for a land war in Kosovo is far from general. Before Congress went into recess, the Senate approved a measure supporting airstrikes, but 38 of 55 Republican senators opposed it and many remain critical of the way Mr Clinton has handled the crisis.

Republican Congressman Tom Campbell said that he would introduce a resolution calling for a vote on whether the US should continue to take part in the air war. Another proposal calls for arming the Kosovo Liberation Army and yet another says that funds for sending ground troops should be denied without express authorisation from Congress.

An economy cut dead by conflict

FROM ROGER BOYES IN BONN

NATO'S bombardment of Serbia is beginning not only to dent the efficiency of President Milosevic's army but also to handicap an already sickly civil economy. It is this economic breakdown rather than battlefield defeats that may eventually force the Serbian leader to his knees.

The damage to bridges, roads, railway networks and pipelines is all too evident.

Nato estimates that it will take $13 billion (£8 billion) to restore the infrastructure destroyed in the past 20 days of aerial warfare.

Certainly shares of German construction companies — there is no more cold-eyed measure of a war's progress — have been soaring on hopes of big reconstruction projects.

Serbia is being wiped out as an industrial economy. The bombing of a white-goods factory in Cecak destroyed hundreds of vacuum cleaners and electric stoves destined for Russia, one of Serbia's most important trading partners. About 8 per cent of Yugoslav exports go to Russia and 10 per cent of imports come from there.

Other hits included a plastics factory in Pristina, a building company in Novi Sad, and the country's biggest bus depot in Grijilance. The Zastava car factory in Kragujevac — maker of the Yugo car — was flattened by six bombs on the eve of the Orthodox Easter. A nearby power station was also hit.

The main targets have been oil refineries and fuel depots on the principle that an army cannot move without petrol and fighters cannot fly.

The Serbian army has certainly become slower. But farmers have also been unable to carry out the spring sowing and fertilise their fields. Even if the war ended today, there would be serious shortages this winter of corn, cooking oil and sugar.

About 33 per cent of Yugoslav exports go to the European Union, but the stop to European investment, the end of flights in and out of the country, the interruption of other transport routes, the blocking of the Danube waterways: all this ensures that the Serbian economy is cut off from Western markets.

A war economy conceals weakness, but only for a short while. German bankers assume that Mr Milosevic is keeping the economy afloat with help from Russia and China. Many leading Serbs and a few Serb institutions have switched their finances offshore, to Cyprus, and intelligence sources say there may be a Cypriot lifeline to the Yugoslav economy.

But the overall picture is dismal: Serbia is being driven into bankruptcy by its leader.



Half-price lines offer on BT Highway, ISDN and 2nd Lines

There's something out there. And it's big. BT will connect you to a second line, or convert your existing line to BT Highway or ISDN, for just half the normal price. Simply call us and order before June 30th. It's something extra for terrestrials.

Free*fone* 0800 800 803
or visit www.bt.com/halfprice

BT *Stay in touch*

OFFER APPLIES TO NORMAL CHARGE FOR CONVERTING AN EXISTING LINE TO BT HIGHWAY OR ISDN WITH AN AGREED CONVERSION DATE BEFORE 31ST JULY 1999. OFFER APPLIES TO SPECIFIED OPTIONS AND EXCLUDES COST OF ADDITIONAL EQUIPMENT AND RENTAL CHARGES. CERTAIN TYPES OF LINES EXCLUDED. AVAILABLE ON MOST BT EXCHANGES AND SUBJECT TO SURVEY. SECOND LINE OFFER APPLIES TO AN ADDITIONAL ANALOGUE LINE ON SAME PREMISES. MIMIMUM CONTRACT TERMS APPLY.





from 50p a day

Compare our prices - then just give us a call

Come to Prime Health to discover health insurance with a difference. As part of the Standard Life Group, we aim to deliver the best value too. Just compare the cost of our leading plan, Primecare, with those of other insurers:

Monthly premium for a single person, aged 35	
Primecare	£35.54
BUPACare	£43.48
PPP Extensive	£53.91
Norwich Union Express Care	£55.80



YOURS FREE

Find out how much you could be saving by phoning now for a no-obligation quote. We'll even send you a FREE £25 Marks & Spencer voucher if you join Prime Health before 31st March 1999.

Call 0800 77 99 55 to find out more Ref: M17001NG

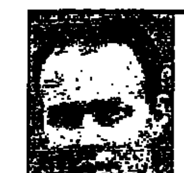
Prime Health

A member of the Standard Life Group

Although benefits vary between products, we believe the table shows a realistic and unbiased comparison between us and our competitors. All premiums quoted are based on a single person aged 35 and are correct at time of going to press. The Primecare premium is shown with a 25% no claims discount which is available to all new policyholders. Gift voucher terms and conditions: 1. Allow 28 days from the date of receipt by Prime Health of the purchaser's first premium payment for delivery of vouchers. 2. The gift will be withdrawn if the purchaser cancels the policy within 15 days of the policy start date. 3. This offer does not apply to existing policyholders, adding people to an existing policy or to company schemes.

هكذا من الاصل

Belgrade votes for link with Russia



Lone dissenter raises spectre of new Cold War as Serbs turn to Moscow for military aid, writes **Tom Walker** in Belgrade

THE Yugoslav parliament yesterday voted overwhelmingly to apply for membership of a confederation with Russia and Belarus.

Vuk Draskovic, the Deputy Prime Minister who opposed the move, issued a warning that Nato's continued bombardment was helping to recreate a Cold War world which had revived Moscow's historical dream of a port on the Adriatic.

The alliance, which most Serbs hope will result in military co-operation, was pushed through by the power blocks of President Milosevic's Socialist Party and the radical party of the extreme nationalist, Vojislav Seselj. There was little debate, and the parliament to all intents and purposes looked like a government of national unity.

A forlorn Mr Draskovic, the one pro-European voice left in Yugoslav politics, stayed away from the session. "We were forced to offer our state to be part of the Russian empire, just to fall under the Russian umbrella against Nato," said Mr Draskovic, in his office above the vandalised ground floor formerly occupied by the British Council.

"Nato has gone a good way to restoring the Soviet Union and for the first time in its history to extend Russia's border to the Adriatic coast, fulfilling the dreams of Peter the Great." Mr Draskovic said the new superpower dimension to the Kosovo conflict would either help resolve it or precipitate a wider scale war.

Mr Draskovic cautioned against the forces of communism and nationalism that were waiting to re-emerge in any post-Yeltsin era. Gennadi Zyuganov, the Russian Communist Party leader, was "half way to the throne", he said, and the lure of Yugoslavia was the "most expensive piece of cheese in history". Mr Zyuganov was in Belgrade during the failed Paris peace talks on Kosovo.

Behind Mr Draskovic's colourful language lay a genuine fear in Belgrade that the fight for Kosovo was now not only out of Yugoslav hands, but also beyond Europe.

"Eventually any deal over Kosovo is going to be between Moscow and Washington," Predrag Simic, Mr Draskovic's adviser and one of Serbia's most respected international affairs academics, said. "The ghost of the Cold War is back. I would be the last to see my country divided from others by a quasi Berlin Wall, but this is the way things are developing."

Despite a great deal of flag-waving, nostalgic rhetoric and Cossack dancing in Belgrade over the past few days, there has been little tangible evidence of how the new Slav alliance is to work. Moscow is known to have cold feet over the idea, and Serbia's sister state in the Yugoslav federation, Montenegro, has said it wants nothing to do with the alliance. Rumours are still rife in Belgrade, however, that Russian missiles could save the day against Nato's vastly superior airpower, which is starting to take its psychological toll on the Serbs.

"We are in a war in which we can't see our enemy for the first time in our history and we are very disappointed," Mr Draskovic said. "I would prefer the bombardment to stop to seeing Russian missiles. But I tell you that the majority of Serbs want the SA300 missile system. They want revenge. They want to fight Nato."

Mr Draskovic said there was still time for a negotiated settlement, and he reiterated his position that foreign troops — though not from Nato countries — would be acceptable in Kosovo.

"It could all be finished in two weeks," he said. "Nato would have to stop its aggression and threats of invasion, and the state forces would immediately be reduced to the level of the Holbrooke-Milosevic meeting of last October. In those days of withdrawal we could complete a political settlement. There would be a full investigation of those who have committed crimes on both sides during these weeks of darkness, and there would be a normalisation of our relations with the European Union. It is the only reasonable way."

He said today's meeting in Oslo between Madeleine Albright, the American Secretary of State, and Igor Ivanov, the Russian Foreign Minister, could pave the way for a settlement "that Russia wants but America clearly does not".

BENOIT DOPPAGNE / REUTERS



Robin Cook shows solidarity with Javier Solana at a Nato meeting in Brussels yesterday

Yeltsin evades Duma attack

FROM ANNA BLUNDY IN MOSCOW

THE Russian Duma voted yesterday to postpone indefinitely impeachment proceedings against President Yeltsin. A final decision had been due this Thursday.

"This is embarrassing for the Duma, but not as embarrassing as failing to get enough votes, which is what would have happened if they had gone ahead," said Leonid Radzikhovsky, of the weekly news magazine *Segodnya*.

Mr Yeltsin had asked that the vote should be taken on Thursday as planned, knowing that he had campaigned enough behind the scenes for the seemingly interminable impeachment proceedings against him to fail.

The postponement is a part victory for Mr Yeltsin after a week of threats and negotiations as the President tried to avert disaster. "All this populist talk about a union between Russia, Belarus and Yugoslavia has ruined the Duma's plans for getting rid of Yeltsin," said Mr Radzikhovsky.

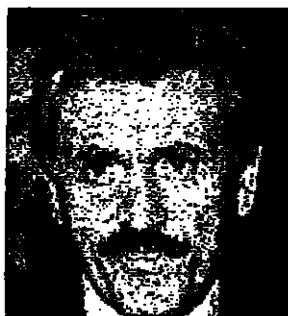
Mr Yeltsin is thought to have adopted a strong anti-Nato position in order to consolidate support in the Duma.

However, the President will now have to leave Yevgeni Primakov, the powerful Prime Minister, in place.

Had the Duma voted once and for all not to impeach the President, Mr Yeltsin would have been able to take radical decisions, such as sacking Mr Primakov, from a position of unassailability.

Peter Brookes, page 18

D'Alema and Schröder feel pressure as anti-war sentiment grows



D'Alema: faces growing anti-war protests

FROM RICHARD OWEN IN ROME

MASSIMO D'Alema, Italy's Prime Minister, faces a critical parliamentary vote on the war in Kosovo today against a background of growing anti-war protests across the country which threaten to topple him and split the alliance.

Virulently anti-war Communist members of Signor D'Alema's fragile centre-left coalition are demanding an immediate end to the bombing as the Nato campaign enters its fourth week with no end in sight and more allied warplanes arriving in Italy.

Diplomats said that if Nato moved to a land offensive, the D'Alema coalition would collapse, placing Nato's continued use of Italian bases in question.

Signor D'Alema survived a debate on Kosovo at the start of the conflict only by promising to "make all efforts to restore peace as swiftly as possible". Italy has led the humanitarian relief effort in Albania — a former Italian colony. But now the patience of his Communist allies is running out and anti-war demonstrations are not only turning violent, but also becoming openly anti-American.

There is still bitter anti-American feeling here following the acquittal in February of a US Marine pilot whose jet sent a cable car plunging to the ground at Cavalese, near Aviano, last year, killing 20 people.



Schröder: majority was not as big as hoped

GERMANY'S Social Democrats confirmed the Chancellor, Gerhard Schröder, as their leader by a 75 per cent majority at a party conference in Bonn yesterday, but the result was a setback for the country's involvement in the Nato offensive and a blow to the party's pro-business wing (Tony Paterson writes).

The conference was called to appoint Herr Schröder as SPD leader after the resignation last month of Oskar Lafontaine, his predecessor. The result was a disappointment for SPD moderates who had hoped that the conference would give Herr Schröder an overwhelming mandate, enabling them to carry out the pro-business reforms they had found difficult to implement under Herr Lafontaine.

It also marred the Government's support for German participation in Nato's Balkans assault. The Chancellor's diminished majority was interpreted as a partial victory for the party's pacifist wing.



BALKANS WAR: THE REFUGEES

'Callous' guards block aid

Macedonian police are obstructing efforts to care for ailing refugees, reports **Stephen Farrell** in Skopje

AN EXHAUSTED doctor in Macedonia yesterday gave a grim insight into how obstructive police and shortages of medicine have compromised efforts to treat sick Kosovans.

While the lucky majority of refugees are cared for at the well-equipped Nato camps set up by British, German and other forces near the Kosovan border, 1,500 languish at the remote Radusa camp set up by the Macedonian Government.

Out of sight down a narrow dirt road, the perimeter fence is patrolled by armed guards who stop anyone leaving, even refusing to let sick children go to hospital.

Dialeta Nela, 36, told how she had to combat callousness by guards in a camp with grossly inadequate sanitation, medical supplies and food. A veteran of the Bosnian war, she witnessed a Macedonian policeman beat one frail patient in front of her inside a field hospital, and says she has been forced to compromise her professionalism to ensure treatment for patients.

"I have to go to the police and buy them Coca-Cola and whisky to go into places and take really sick people out. I have to make with the beautiful eyes and flirt to get things. I thank God I am a woman because I can do more than a man but it is disgusting for me to do it," said Dr Nela, a Kosovan working with the Los Angeles-based International Medical Corps.

After witnessing at first hand the squalor of the Blace border camp, where 65,000 were packed into makeshift tents in scenes that shocked the world, she and one other doctor are now at Radusa. Less than an hour away is the military efficiency of the Nato-run Brazde camp, where over the Orthodox Easter weekend British cooks supplied a hot meal to every small child.

But here there are only a handful of makeshift latrines, access from a dirt track that turns into a quagmire when it rains and armed guards on the hillside to stop people fleeing, even though some have relatives or friends living nearby willing to take them in. Many were brought here from Blace by bus, but aid agencies were denied access for days and the only medical treatment was the one IMC tent.

Surrounded by rapidly diminishing supplies of anti-diarrhoea treatments and just six bottles of fever medicine for 1,500 people, Dr Nela arrived here only to be told by her predecessors that guards had refused to allow three camp inmates to leave for urgently-needed hospital treatment.

Among them was 18-month-old Anjeta Havolli, who for four days suffered constant pain and was unable to take her bottle because of an abscess in her jaw contracted in the cold, wet squalor of Blace. She feared the child could develop meningitis.

PETER NICHOLLS



Dialeta Nela says relief supplies that are flown into Macedonia are not reaching the refugees at Radusa camp

"This child must go to hospital immediately," she said. "She needs very strong antibiotics, which we do not have here. The doctors who were here before me told the guards that she and two other people needed to go to hospital, but were refused permission."

For Dr Nela and her colleague Genc Halili, Anjeta's plight sums up the muddle that has prevented the huge worldwide aid effort reaching those who need it.

Even though food and medical supplies are being flown in to Skopje airport by the planeload, by late last week they had plainly not reached Radusa.

"We have nothing here. There are medicines in the country, but we cannot get them. We are not able to help these people much more, all we can offer is a few good words. Everything is confusion," Dr Nela said. "The IMC buys a lot of medical supplies and the UNHCR have the drugs but they are not releasing them where they are needed and are not making contact with us. It is bad today and it may be worse tomorrow."

BALKANS SUMMARY

Australia rejects Serb spy charge

Canberra: Australia denounced as "preposterous" the Belgrade Government's claim that Steve Pratt, the captured aid worker, had been a spy, despite his confession on Serbian television. Alexander Downer, the Foreign Minister, said he had demanded the immediate release of both Mr Pratt and Peter Wallace, a second Care Australia aid worker. The pair were detained 12 days ago at the Croatian border.

Mr Downer and Care criticised an Australian newspaper report which said Mr Pratt, a former army quartermaster, had supplied information to the United Nations while working for Care in Iraq during the 1991 Gulf War. Care said Mr Pratt's confession had been made under duress. *(Reuters)*

Wellington sends aid

Wellington: A New Zealand military medical team flew to Kosovo on a humanitarian aid mission as the Government announced that it would accept 200 ethnic Albanian refugees. Jenny Shipley, the Prime Minister, said the refugees would be resettled with families of Albanian descent. The team's Hercules C130, with military doctors, medics and nurses, will carry food and other aid to camps in Tirana and Skopje and will work with the Red Cross. *(AP)*

9,000 flee to Turkey

Ankara: More than 9,000 refugees from Kosovo have arrived in Turkey since Nato airstrikes began, the Anatolia news agency reported. The report quoted customs officials in the province of Edirne, on the border with Greece and Bulgaria, as saying that 5,742 refugees, including 2,125 children and 1,988 women, arrived by road via Bulgaria. A further 3,363 refugees were flown to the airport of Corlu in northwestern Turkey, bringing the total number to 9,105. *(AFP)*

'Peace Train' robbed

Yusuf Islam, the London-based singer formerly known as Cat Stevens, says Macedonian border guards stole DM60,000 (£21,000) from him as his relief convoy crossed into Albania to distribute aid to refugees. The creator of hit songs such as *Morning has Broken* and *Peace Train* said: "We're here to help those people who are going through this problem of ethnic cleansing, and they've robbed us."

Tudjman ally on trial for war crimes against Bosnian Muslims



Kordic arraigned on 22 counts of war crimes

FROM SUSAN BELL IN PARIS

A FORMER ally of President Tudjman of Croatia, the influential Bosnian Croat politician and military commander, Dario Kordic, went on trial yesterday before the International War Crimes Tribunal in The Hague, charged with the "ethnic cleansing" of Muslims from central Bosnia in 1992 and 1993.

The trial, which will highlight Croatia's role in the Bosnia conflict, could also shed light on the inner workings of the Zagreb Government and in particular on meetings which Mr Tudjman is said to have had at the time with Yugoslavia's President Milosevic, during which the two leaders are alleged to have discussed the carving up of Bosnia.

Mr Tudjman is under investigation for his role in the ethnic cleansing of Muslims, Serbs and other non-Croatian civilians from Bosnia — a strategy which prosecutors say was intended to give the Croatian leader control over the region.

Mr Kordic, 38, one of the most wanted Croatian war crimes suspects, is accused of 22 counts of war crimes and crimes against humanity along with Mario Cerkez, 40, a former car mechanic, who became the commander of a Croatian militia (HVO) brigade in Vitez, central Bosnia, and who the indictment says "was directly and actively involved in the wide-scale persecution of Bosnian Muslim civilians".

United Nations prosecutors say that troops under Mr Kordic's command murdered at least 100 Muslims, including women, children and old people, torching, shelling or dynamiting their homes and mosques in a systematic campaign to drive all Muslims out of the Lasva River Valley.

Many who escaped death were imprisoned in detention camps where they were tortured and sexually assaulted.

Among the most important witnesses are members of a British contingent of UN peacekeepers who have told the tribunal of the 1993 massacre of Muslims in Ahmici.

As a high-ranking member of the Bosnian Croat leadership, Mr Kordic knew of and actively participated in the planning of these vicious attacks, the prosecutors said.

For at least part of the time, he was head of the central Bosnian branch of the Croatian Democratic Union, which controlled both civilian and military aspects of Bosnian Croat society. He is thus indicted not only for individual criminal responsibility but also for so-called command responsibility which carries a tougher sentence. The trial is significant too because it will focus on the extent to which a leader can be held accountable for failing to prevent or punish atrocities committed by subordinates.

Mr Kordic and Mr Cerkez were among a group of ten suspects indicted by the tribunal who voluntarily surrendered in October 1997 after American and European governments put pressure on Mr Tudjman, with Washington blocking International Monetary Fund and World Bank loans to Croatia.

If convicted of even one of the charges against them, Mr Kordic and Mr Cerkez face life imprisonment. Both have pleaded not guilty.



LINKS

http://www.un.org/icty/ — UN International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia
http://www.bosnet.org — Information about Bosnia's people, culture and heritage
http://www.wcw.org/wcw/ — The website of War Criminal Watch with a dossier on each indicted suspect

Milosevic tops list of war crimes suspects

BY MICHAEL BINYON, DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

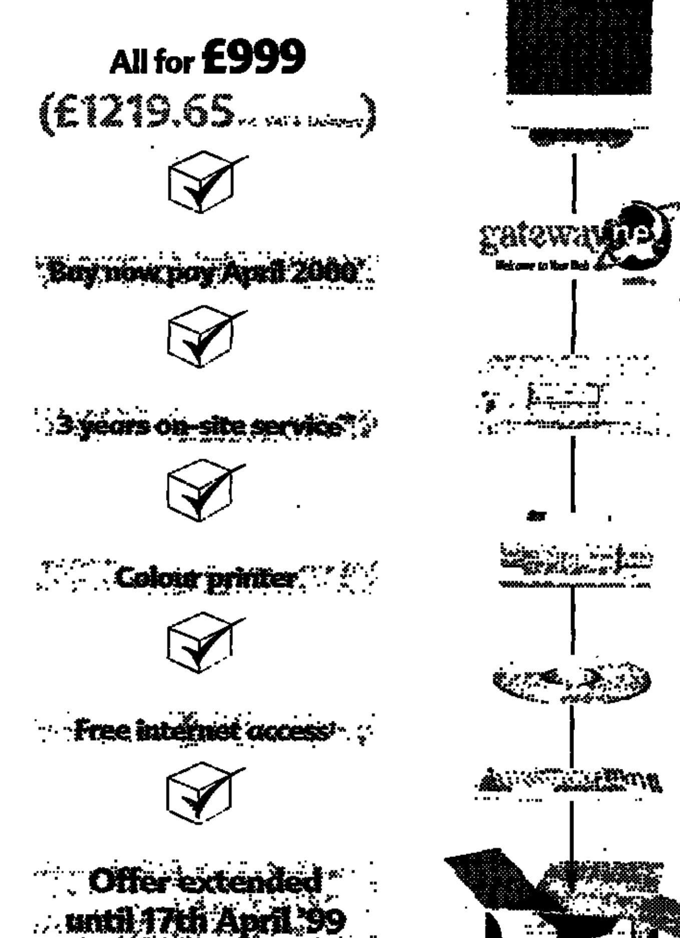
WASHINGTON has announced that nine Serb commanders could face prosecution by the war crimes tribunal in The Hague. But heading any list will be President Milosevic himself.

The Yugoslav leader has long been suspected of masterminding the "ethnic cleansing" that began the war in Bosnia. He is now accused of planning the systematic destruction of Albanian homes and communities in Kosovo, the murder of hundreds of civilians and the reign of terror there. However the war ends, Nato and all Western governments are determined that he should answer these charges.

Set up on a shoestring in 1993 during the war in Bosnia, the tribunal has now indicted 83 people. Fewer than a third have been apprehended, and the rest are in hiding. But the indictments have already destroyed all the remaining influence of two wartime Bosnian Serb leaders, Radovan Karadzic and Ratko Mladic, forcing them underground for more than a year to escape arrest.

☐ **Madrid:** Nato is considering an attempt to capture President Milosevic if he is declared a war criminal, Eduardo Serra, Spain's Defence Minister, said. *(AFP)*

Before you buy a Pentium® III processor, check it ticks all our boxes.



All Gateway computers are custom built to ensure you get the latest technology, at the latest prices, in a PC that's right for you. Because at Gateway it's your way or no way.

intel inside pentium® III

YOUR G7-450B MULTIMEDIA PC PACKAGE

FULLY FEATURED MULTIMEDIA PC WITH MODEM
Intel® Pentium® III Processor, 450MHz
• 64MB SDRAM
• Epson® Stylus™ 440 Colour Printer
• 17" EV700 Monitor
• Microsoft® Windows® 98, MS® IntelliMouse™
• MS Works Suite 99

0800 97 37 37

Have it your way DIRECT FROM



Gateway Stores: Croydon The Whitgift Centre • **Kingston** The Bentall Centre • **Covent Garden** 10 Bedford Street **Manchester** The Trafford Centre • **Leeds** 95 The Headrow • **Kent** The Bluewater Centre

Sales Phone Lines Open Monday to Friday 8am-10pm. Saturday 9am-6pm

©1999 Gateway 2000 Europe. All rights reserved. Gateway, Your:)Ware and the Gateway stylised logo are trademarks of Gateway 2000 inc. The Intel Inside Logo and Pentium are registered trademarks of the Intel Corporation. All other brands and product names are trademarks or registered trademarks of their respective companies. All sales subject to Gateway 2000 Europe's standard terms and conditions (available on request) and limited warranty. All prices and configurations are subject to change without notice or obligation. All prices are quoted in Sterling. Available with all PCs with a modem. Terms and conditions apply. gateway.net technical support calls are charged at £1 a minute at all times. Offer applies to Windows 95 and 98 systems only. ** Terms and conditions apply, please call for details.

*BUY NOW, PAY APRIL 2000 — available on all our PCs. Typical example: Total cash price including VAT and delivery £1219.65. Loan value £1219.65. Repayments: one repayment in April 2000 of £1219.65. Total amount payable £1219.65 INTEREST FREE OR: Commencing April 2000, 30 monthly repayments of £54.53. Total amount payable £1635.90. APR 26.9%. Credit is available only to persons aged 18 years or over, subject to status. Written quotations available on request.

Will you be better off if we are a bank?
A few experts did a quote.

"The vote is being seen by some as a general election on the future of the entire building society movement. Some experts reckon that if a big society like Bradford & Bingley goes, the rest will follow very quickly." The Guardian 6.3.99

"If you're a member – and over 600,000 readers ARE members, what you mustn't do is chuck the forms out. It's a sin to bin." The Mirror 18.3.99

"To all members of the society, may I make one simple plea? Please do not ignore the information that Bradford & Bingley sends you: Read it, then vote – do not sit on your hands." The Mail on Sunday 7.2.99

Bradford & Bingley

You'll be better off if we stay a building society.

Tirana welcomes Nato offensive

Albania is resisting Serb provocation and has given its backing to a ground offensive, writes Sam Kiley in Tirana

ALBANIA yesterday welcomed Nato plans to increase significantly the number of troops in the country after a spate of border incidents in which Kosovan rebels and Albanians came under fire from Serb mortars and machineguns.

Observers with the Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe said that three Albanian civilians and four fighters with the Kosovo Liberation Army were killed after four Albanian villages came under Serb attack.

After four days of fighting along the border, at least ten wounded Albanian and KLA soldiers were being treated in the Bajram Curri hospital, sparking belligerent statements by the Serb and Albanian Governments and fears that the two countries were sliding into an all-out war.

"Nato needs to intervene to neutralise the Serb artillery near the border with Albania because it has been firing in the direction of Albanian territory in the past few days," Petro Koci, Albania's Interior Minister, said.

The Albanian Government, which met in emergency session on Sunday, called the mortar attack on the border town of Tropoje "a grave violation" of the country's territorial integrity. "The Albanian people and their armed forces are ready to face any military aggression," it added.

> 'We have given Nato the right to control our airspace and ports'

In Belgrade, Serbian state television said Albanian forces were supporting an attempted incursion into Kosovo by hundreds of KLA fighers.

The increase in Nato ground troops in Albania — aircraft were arriving every 15 minutes with men and weapons yesterday — has raised hopes among Kosovan refugees here that the allied forces would be used to occupy their homeland and set up a form of international protectorate, effectively removing Kosovo from the Yugoslav federation.

It has also boosted morale among ordinary Albanians who fear that the Serbs are likely to try to turn the Kosovo crisis into a wider Balkan war by attacking Albanian positions along the border.

Last week the Albanian Army, an ill-equipped force of men in thick woollen uniforms reminiscent of the Second World War, reinforced the northern border areas with antiquated artillery pieces.

A senior Albanian officer said he was under no illusions that the show of force would make any difference to the Serbs, who have been digging tanks into defensive positions.

"On the one hand, they look likely to attack us at any moment. On the other, they are clearly setting up defences for a ground attack by Nato. The good news for Nato is that in doing this they make their armour less mobile and easier to attack," he said.

Serb snipers at the Morine border crossing tried to provoke Albanian troops into a full-scale battle by firing on their positions, he said.

"We have been ordered to maintain a low profile and not to react to the Serb provocations. It's difficult when we see buildings burning behind them and have to watch as they take refugee women out of the queues trying to get into Albania and rape them. But I am looking forward to seeing them all killed by Nato when the A10s (anti-tank aircraft) come in. That's going to be great," said an Albanian soldier on the border at Morine.

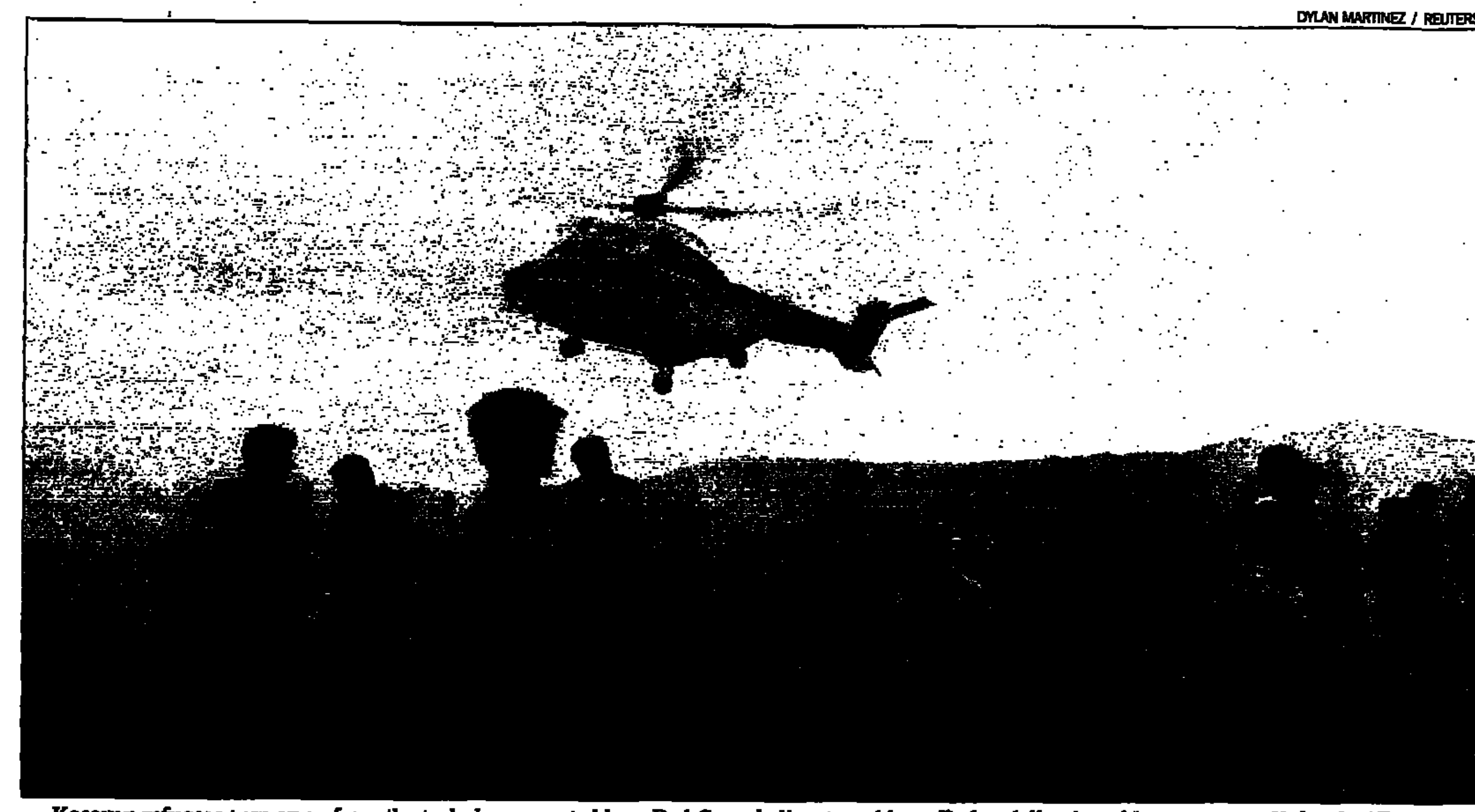
About 8,000 troops, mainly Americans, are due to arrive in Albania this week. They will be backed by 24 Apache attack helicopters and an additional 82 warplanes.

Nato continues to insist that plans for a ground invasion are on the shelf. But a spokesman admitted that they were regularly reviewed. In northern Albania secret service agents from most Nato countries have been working closely with the KLA over the past two weeks in selecting targets for Nato air attacks, and assessing the strength of the rebels.

Paskal Milo, the Foreign Minister, said: "The Albanian Government is ready to accept other ground troops from Nato. We have decided to give Nato the right to control all our airspace, ports and any other kind of military infrastructure."

The 8,000 Nato troops given the task of running Operation Allied Harbour, a humanitarian mission to help the 300,000 Kosovans who have taken refuge in Albania from Serb atrocities, were being seen as the first of a wave of Nato troops which the Albanian Government hopes to see arrive in the country soon.

Tirana has signalled its enthusiasm for the allied attacks on Yugoslavia and thrown what weight it has behind a growing clamour for ground troops to enter Kosovo.



DYLAN MARTINEZ / REUTERS

Kosovan refugees turn away from the turbulence created by a Red Cross helicopter taking off after delivering aid to a camp at Kukes in Albania

Morning after pills for victims

EMERGENCY supplies of the morning-after contraceptive pill are being sent to Kosovan refugees in Albania for use by women who have been raped during the conflict (Alexandra Frean writes).

The International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF) said yesterday that it was sending a $60,000 (£37,000) aid package that also contained condoms, supplies of the contraceptive pill and pregnancy testing kits.

Clare Hoffman, a spokeswoman for the organisation, said that such supplies were often overlooked in emergency relief situations in the rush to provide basics, such as food, clothing and shelter.

Ms Hoffman said that there was bound to be a need for the morning-after pill.

"In past situations, in Rwanda and Bosnia, we know that women were raped," she said.

Alliance rethink on composition of Kosovo peace force

By Michael Evans

Nato governments are beginning to change their view about the composition of the "international force" that would be deployed to Kosovo in the event of a diplomatic resolution to the war.

Although the British Government appears resolutely opposed to any military force which is not led by Nato, other alliance members are already considering alternatives which might be more acceptable to Belgrade.

Until now, the position of the alliance was that Nato was the only organisation which had the command and control set-up, the military muscle and the cohesion to mount a complex peace implementation force. On that basis, the military annexe to the Rambouillet draft accord specifically requested the signatories to "invite Nato to constitute and lead" a military force.

The annexe also stated that the Nato forces would consist of ground and air elements and that non-Nato countries could play a role, provided they agreed to come under the political control of the North Atlantic Council "through the Nato chain of command".

While determined to stick to this formula, London has always been prepared to consider different labelling for the force to help President Milosevic overcome any domestic opposition to having a large military presence in Kosovo operating under the Nato flag.

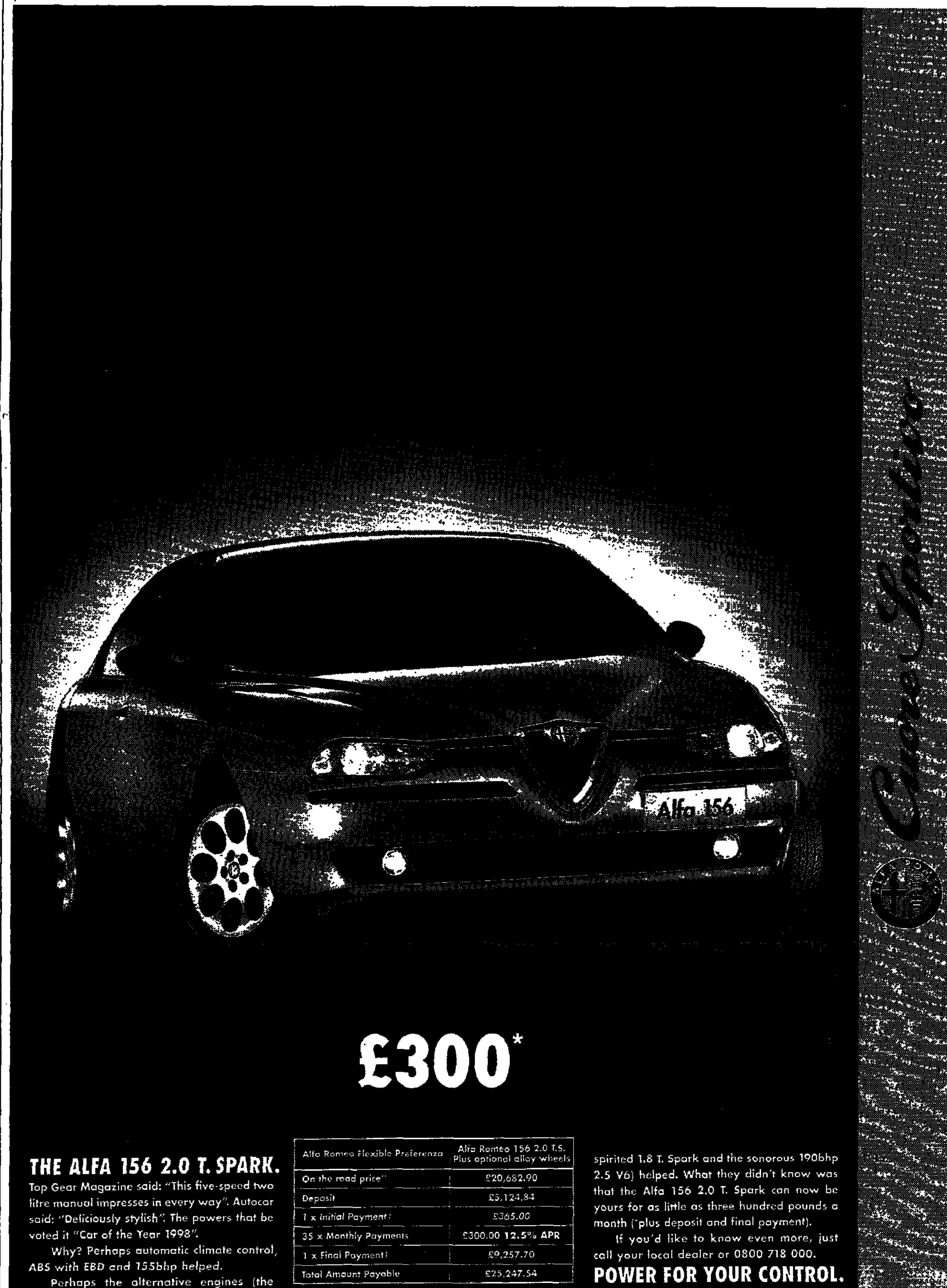
Whatever the labelling, however, whether it involved United Nations or the Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), London has remained adamant that the force would still be commanded by Nato.

A Foreign Office official said: "The one thing we have been absolutely firm about is that the military force cannot have a dual-key command arrangement, as we had in Bosnia-Herzegovina during the early period of the UN-Nato peacekeeping mission."

However, since Belgrade rejected the Rambouillet peace package by claiming that Yugoslavia could never countenance a Nato force on its territory, and that position would be even more entrenched now, renewed efforts are being made to devise an international force that could be deployed to suit all tastes.

Asked whether the OSCE could be put in charge, Alain Richard, the French Defence Minister, said yesterday it was possible to imagine a force in Kosovo that would not be "under the direct authority of Nato". Germany is also considering alternatives.

But George Robertson, the Defence Secretary, remains uncompromising. "A Nato-led force is our plan and our view." He said non-Nato countries, such as Russia, could contribute troops, but Nato command and control was "essential to make sure that such a force would work".



Alfa Romeo Flexible Preferenza	Alfa Romeo 156 2.0 T.S. Plus optional alloy wheels
On the road price**	£20,682.90
Deposit	£5,124.84
1 x Initial Payment†	£365.00
35 x Monthly Payments	£300.00 12.5% APR
1 x Final Payment††	£9,257.70
Total Amount Payable	£25,247.54

12.5% APR

*Price (on the road) is correct at time of printing 10/3/99. Offer available on cars ordered between 15/03/99 and 30/06/99. The APR shown is specific to the example shown in the table. †Including administration fee of £65. ††Includes an option to purchase fee of £25. There is an option to return the vehicle and not pay the Final Payment, subject to the vehicle not having exceeded an agreed mileage (12,000 per annum in this example) and being in good condition. Excess mileage charges may apply at 10p per mile. Minimum deposit 10%. Credit available to anyone aged 18 or over, subject to status. This offer cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer. A guarantee and/or indemnity may be required. Written quotation is available on request from Alfa Romeo Financial Services, P.O. Box 17009, Edinburgh, EH12 5YW.

PAY MONTHLY FOR A RANGE ROVER AND WHO KNOWS WHERE IT MIGHT TAKE YOU.

Whether you're experiencing the excitement of Centre Court in June, or spending a day at the races in

QUEEN'S CUP POLO COMPETITION, MAY

November, a Range Rover can help you enjoy it to the full. We're making it easier for you to relax by offering

WIMBLEDON TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIP, JUNE

a special deal on any 1998 model year Range Rover bought through our Freedom finance scheme. Not only

BRITISH GRAND PRIX, JULY

will £665 a month (plus Deposit, Acceptance Fee and Optional Final Payment) allow you to drive your

COWES WEEK, AUGUST

Range Rover wherever you please but Land Rover will also match every pound of your deposit up to

THE ROYAL HIGHLAND GAMES, SEPTEMBER

£5000.** Two years free servicing† and a three year warranty‡‡ means your vehicle will always be in

RUGBY WORLD CUP, OCTOBER

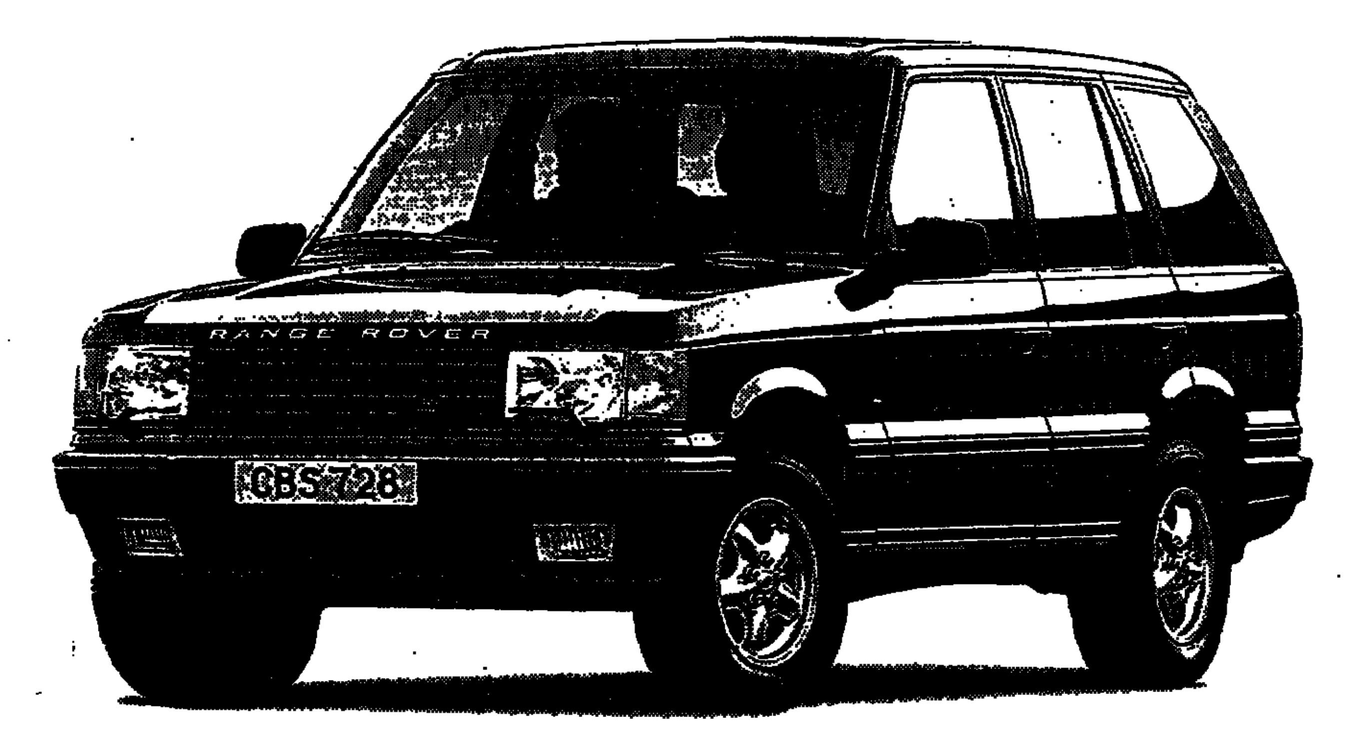
top condition. And whether you choose to buy your Range Rover, give it back,# or trade it in,# its future

HENNESSEY GOLD CUP, NOVEMBER

value is guaranteed. In fact, the only thing you may have to worry about is which horse to back in the 2.30.

INTERNATIONAL SHOWJUMPING CHAMPIONSHIP, DECEMBER

For more information fill in the coupon below or call 0800 110 110. Alternatively visit www.landrover.co.uk



Post to: Land Rover, FREEPOST TK494, Twickenham, Middlesex TW2 5UN. Fax to: 0181 410 8445. Your data will be used by Rover Group Ltd, other members of the Group, its dealers and agents for research and analysis purposes and to advise you of products, services and special promotions undertaken by such parties. If you would prefer not to receive further communications, please tick the box ☐

Title ______ Initials ______ Surname ______

Address ______

Postcode ______ Daytime Tel. No. ______

e-mail address: ______

Current car (make and model) ______

Year of Reg ______

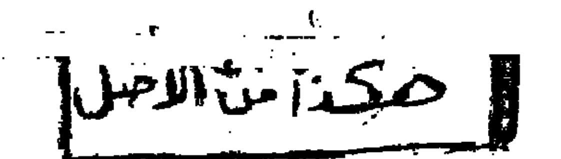
Likely replacement date: Month ______ Year ______

TMS120467

LAND-ROVER

RANGE ROVER

Land Rover Freedom Typical Example: Range Rover Diesel HSE LE '98 MY. On The Road Cash Price* £47080. Deposit £10,000. Amount of Credit £37080. Total Charge for Credit** £10,793.68. First Monthly Payment† £745. Followed by 35 Monthly Payments £665. Followed by an Optional Final Payment ††(Guaranteed Minimum Future Value#) £23,853.68. Total Amount Payable £57,873.68. Model shown 4.0 SE '98 MY. **Maximum deposit contribution £5000 supplied by Land Rover Dealer. *Subject to availability. **Total Charge for Credit includes an Acceptance Fee of £80. †Shown including £80 Acceptance Fee. ††Shown including £25.00 Option to Purchase Fee. #Further charges may be subject to mileage/condition if the vehicle is returned at the end of the agreement (maximum contractual mileage 37000 miles). ‡‡Warranty extends to 3 years or 60,000 miles whichever comes first. No mileage limit in the first year after purchase. Subject to manufacturer's terms and conditions. Available in the UK only. †Free servicing applies to 2 years or 24,000 miles whichever comes first. Offer restricted to '98 MY vehicles purchased through Land Rover Financial Services Freedom Finance Plan. Subject to manufacturer's terms and conditions. Finance is provided subject to status and conditions. Guarantees/indemnities may be required. All prices, offers and finance terms shown are correct at time of going to press and are subject to change without notice. Certain categories of business user may be excluded. Written quotations available upon request. Finance is provided by Land Rover Financial Services, Box 39, International House, Bickenhill Lane, Birmingham B37 7HQ.



Tapioca plant may yield cure for cancer

Cassava gene produces virus that kills tumours, writes Nick Nuttall

THE plant from which tapioca pudding is made may hold the key to a powerful anti-cancer drug. Genes isolated from the plant have been used successfully to eradicate brain tumours in laboratory rats. Tests on human tissue are progressing well, it is claimed.

Professor Monica Hughes, a plant geneticist at the University of Newcastle, has been studying the cassava plant. Although it is a staple crop for 500 million people in Africa, Asia and South America, cassava is rarely used in research in the developed world because it is rarely eaten or grown in Western countries.

Cassava also has a deadly downside. It produces a toxin, hydrogen cyanide, to deter grazing animals from eating it. Thousands of people a year are crippled from chronic cyanide poisoning when the crop is badly processed during preparation and cooking.

Professor Hughes has collaborated with cancer specialists at the University of Autonoma in Madrid to study the plant's secrets. The work has attracted attention from pharmaceutical firms, which are now carrying out tests on human tissue cultures with promising results.



Monica Hughes: hopeful of drug within ten years

Professor Hughes, of Newcastle's School of Biochemistry and Genetics, said yesterday that, if trials in human beings went well, a possible new treatment for cancer could be available in "five to ten years".

Cassava produces a chemical called linamarin and an enzyme known as linamarase, which breaks down the linamarin into the cyanide compound. Professor Hughes has isolated and cloned the gene in cassava that makes the enzyme. This, in turn, has been genetically engineered into a retrovirus that can punch its way into cells to deliver a deadly payload.

The virus has been tested by the Spanish collaborators on brain tumours in laboratory rats. The tumour cells are injected with a steady drip of linamarin and then the virus is injected into the cancer cells to trigger the deadly reaction.

The team found that the brain tumour was destroyed in about a week. But neighbouring healthy cells, which were not impregnated with linamarin, were largely left unharmed. Any linamarin that escapes from the treatment area to other parts of the body is excreted harmlessly in the urine.

Professor Hughes, whose seven years of research has been funded under a European Union programme, said that the team also hoped to develop genetically modified strains of cassava in which the cyanide production is switched off, to reduce ill health in the developing world.

A spokesman for the University of Newcastle said yesterday that on no account should it be inferred that eating tapioca pudding could cure cancer.



ADRIAN SHERRATT

A dancer of the English National Ballet rehearses *Swan Lake* in London yesterday. The group is to take the production to Australia and Hong Kong

GP told patient with stab wound to treat himself

A VILLAGE GP left the scene of an attempted suicide, in which a man stabbed himself in the throat, telling relatives to stanch the blood themselves, the General Medical Council was told yesterday.

Sivagurunathan Srirangalingam, who was born in Sri Lanka, admitted neglecting three patients and was found guilty of serious professional misconduct.

In the case of the attempted suicide, he had previously told the family he could not call as his car was blocked by snow. He made no attempt to call out another doctor. Another patient who called him out because she was vomiting was told that she was suffering a reaction to medication and would feel better the next day. She died later in hospital from a brain haemorrhage.

In a third case, involving a woman suffering abnormally swollen legs, the doctor failed to examine her adequately and missed the fact that she was suffering from cirrhosis of the liver. Some weeks later worried relatives took her to hospital, where she died.

Edward Henry, for the council, acknowledged that the patients' deaths were not being directly attributed to the doctor's failures. However, he had neglected his "fundamental responsibilities" to them. The council's professional conduct committee placed stringent conditions on the doctor for 12 months.

He was ordered to improve his knowledge of therapeutic medicine and seek advice about his clinical practice. He was also ordered to reduce the number of patients, currently more than 4,000. The doctor, from Trimdon Station, Co Durham, admitted failing to treat his patients adequately.

Pupils hired to remove asbestos

By Paul Wilkinson

TWO brothers employed schoolboys to remove dangerous asbestos lagging from a factory, a court was told yesterday. Andrew Medley and his brother, Neil, have admitted using two boys aged 15 and one aged 14 during work at a turbine plant.

Leeds Crown Court was told that Neil Medley, 37, from Menston, West Yorkshire, and Andrew Medley, 36, from Rawdon, Leeds, were directors of Medleys Ltd, which specialised in stripping the potentially lethal mineral insulation, and was put into liquidation in 1996.

Among several breaches of health and safety legislations that Neil Medley admitted were: exposing staff to asbestos while carrying out work at Howsham Hall School in Malton, North Yorkshire, in 1994; and exposing people to asbestos at AET Components at Yeadon, near Leeds, without ensuring that the premises were cleaned, in 1996.

The brothers will be sentenced on Friday. A further charge of allowing waste asbestos to be deposited on land was adjourned.

Former inspector became cheating constable

By Russell Jenkins

A FORMER inspector in the Hong Kong Police thought that traffic duties were beneath him when he returned to Britain as a lowly constable.

John Lee, 32, who had been used to leading a team fighting serious crime in what was a British colony, cut corners when investigating minor road traffic accidents for Greater Manchester Police. He failed to carry out inquiries into two accidents, making up paperwork to suggest there was no point in proceeding.

At Minshull Street Crown Court yesterday Lee was fined £1,000 with £700 costs after admitting two charges of misconduct in public office. He now faces a disciplinary hearing and dismissal from the force.

Judge Woodward told Lee that he had been too lazy to put himself out over what he considered to be minor incidents. "It may well be the fact that you had worked at a higher level on more serious work in Hong Kong. Coming back to the UK to work in traffic was below your capabilities and you thought you were justified in taking this action. I hope you are now disabused of this view."

Kate Blackwell, for the prosecution, said that Lee, from Worsley, committed the offences between June 1997 and October last year while based at Moston, Manchester. In the first accident security cameras had filmed a Mercedes crashing into a parked car. The driver accepted the blame and offered to pay for the damage but Lee said there was insufficient evidence to proceed.

In the second incident a driver had sped off after shunting a vehicle from behind. The owner of the damaged car took the offender's registration number but Lee did not take a statement. When he filed his report it contained a false statement and a false address.

Philip Cattan, for Lee, said his client had been used to a supervisory role and had no experience of dealing with traffic cases. "This man has lost his good character that led him to be an inspector for seven years in the Hong Kong Police."

†AER stands for Annual Equivalent Rate and illustrates what the interest would be if interest was paid and compounded each year. 'Tax-free' means free of income tax. Variable interest paid annually. Seven days notice for withdrawals (minimum £10). ISAs are made up of one or more of the following components – cash, stocks and shares and insurance. Mini ISAs hold these components in separate accounts and each mini ISA can be held with a different ISA manager and in a maxi ISA these must be held with the same ISA manager. Different investment limits apply to mini and maxi ISAs. *A TESSA only ISA if it only holds matured TESSA capital. Halifax ISA saver meets all the CAT standards. Charges – No one-off or regular charges of any kind. Access – Minimum transaction size to be no greater than £10. Withdrawals within seven working days. Terms – Interest rates no lower than two percentage points below the base rate. If an ISA is described as meeting the CAT standards it does not mean that it is in any way 'Government approved' or right for you. Halifax plc. Registered office: Trinity Road, Halifax, West Yorkshire HX1 2RG. Registered in England No. 2367076.

HALIFAX ISA

You want a cracking rate without spending too long looking for it.

HALIFAX ISA SAVER

Up to 6.5% pa tax-free AER†

Phew.

This rate can be yours with £3,000 to invest in our mini cash* Halifax ISA Saver. People wanting to save between £1,000 and £3,000 needn't feel left out. We'll guarantee a rate to match or beat the Bank of England's base rate until at least 5th April 2000. Drop into a branch or call 0800 021 120 for an information pack.



More for your money at Sainsbury's.

Fresh Beef Sirloin, Rump, Fillet Steaks

Save 20% per kg*

Sainsbury's Bulgarian Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon £3·99

Buy 2 get 3rd Free



Kenco 100g Smooth/Rich £2·39
Decaffeinated £2·79
Carte Noire 100g £2·69

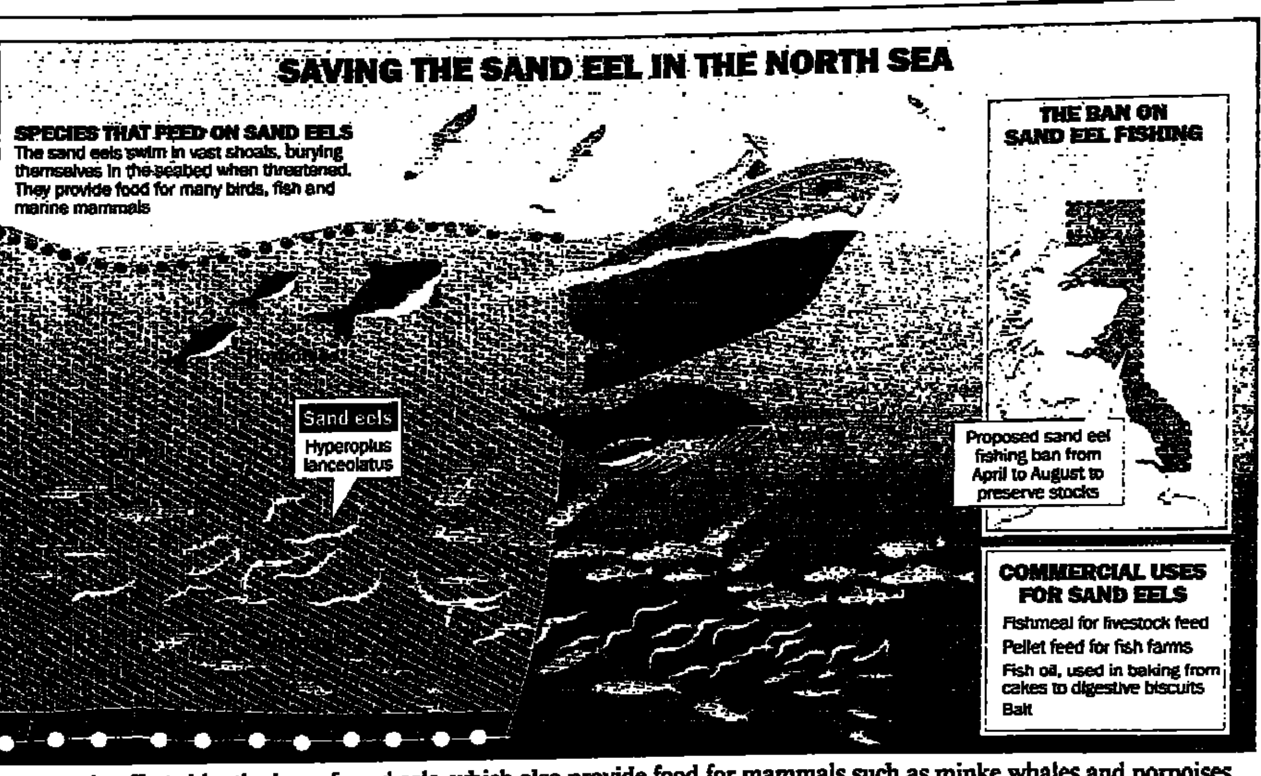
Buy 2 get 3rd Free

Sainsbury's



OFFERS END 25TH APRIL 1999. *OFFER EXCLUDES ORGANIC, TRADITIONAL AND MEAT COUNTER. ALSO AVAILABLE AT SAINSBURY'S SAVACENTRES. SOME LINES AVAILABLE AT LARGER STORES ONLY. PRODUCTS SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY. OFFERS EXCLUDE SAINSBURY'S 'LOCAL' AND 'CENTRAL' STORES. WE'D BE INTERESTED IN YOUR COMMENTS: www.sainsburys.co.uk





The breeding success of kittiwakes on the Isle of May has been severely affected by the loss of sand eels, which also provide food for mammals such as minke whales and porpoises

Fishing ban to save birds

Decline in kittiwake colony is blamed on sand eel industry, reports Nick Nuttall

NORTH SEA sand eel fishing is facing a seasonal ban because of a dramatic decline in life at key nesting sites for seabirds. A powerful committee of scientists that advises the European Commission is to propose the ban on the mainly Danish industry after British researchers showed that it could also be harming wildlife such as seals, salmon and whales.

The researchers, from the Institute of Terrestrial Ecology in Banchory, Aberdeenshire, recorded a dramatic fall in the population and breeding success of kittiwakes on the Isle of May in the Firth of Forth. The birds share the same sand eel grounds as the fishermen. In 1990 there were 8,129 pairs of kittiwakes. The new studies on population size, breeding success and survival rates suggest that there will be between 2,000 and 4,500 pairs breeding in 2002. In 1997, 4,000 chicks survived to leave the nest: last year there were fewer than 100.

The researchers found that the birds, which are faithful to breeding sites, rely heavily on the sand eels in and around an area on the east coast known as Wee Bankie.

Sarah Wanless, from the institute, said yesterday that the kittiwakes were the "canary in the coal mine". She added: "There has been a relentless decline. The species appears particularly sensitive to changes in the availability of sand eels."

Dr Wanless said there were now fears that the kittiwake colony, one of Britain's biggest, was failing to replenish itself. "We estimate a survival between 1997 and 1998 of 76 per cent, far too low to sustain the population."

Britain has proposed seasonal closures of the sand eel fishery from Orkney to Humberside during the breeding season. Elliot Morley, the Agriculture Minister, said on a visit to a nature reserve near Flamborough, East Yorkshire, that the researchers' findings would feature in a report by the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea, which advises the European Commission and European fisheries ministers on quotas.

Euan Dunn, fisheries expert at the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, said that the findings gave the first scientific weight to the urgent need for closed areas during the breeding season. John Harwood, of the Sea Mammal Research Unit at the University of St Andrews, said sand eels could be as important for minke whales and porpoises as they were for seabirds.

LINKS

http://smub.st-and.ac.uk/index.html Sea Mammal Research Unit, including monitoring of grey seal, porpoise and dolphin populations and studies into sealions, monk seals and Amazon river dolphins

www.nmw.ac.uk/ite/banc/banc.html The Institute of Terrestrial Ecology at Banchory, including research on sand eels and seabirds, red grouse, reindeer and capercaillie

www.rspb.org.uk The RSPB: information on wildlife reserves, conservation issues and threats to birds

THREE-YEAR CENSUS AIMS TO COUNT EVERY SEABIRD

Elliot Morley, the Agriculture Minister, right, helps to launch a survey to count the millions of seabirds living around the coasts of Britain and Ireland. The project, Seabird 2000, which will use hundreds of volunteers and take three years, is being run by the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds and the Joint Nature Conservation Committee. An RSPB spokesman said at the launch at Bempton Cliffs Nature Reserve, Humberside, that new techniques would be pioneered including playing calls at night to burrowing seabirds such as stormy petrels. "The volunteers will then count the calls coming back to assess how many are in the burrows," he said.



Meacher hopes to catch two prey with one Bill

BY NICK NUTTALL
ENVIRONMENT CORRESPONDENT

A COMPREHENSIVE Countryside Bill is being drawn up for the Queen's Speech. The Bill, piloted by Michael Meacher, the Environment Minister, will increase protection for animals and plants and fulfil government commitments to providing the right to roam on private land.

There is also an outside chance that it will strengthen protection of hedgerows and areas of outstanding natural beauty. It is hoped that merging several pieces of legislation will save them from falling off the legislative timetable.

News of the plan comes as 21 leading wildlife and conservation groups today present a 250,000-name petition to John Prescott, the Environment Secretary, demanding improvements to the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. The Act covers the protection of sites of special scientific interest, lowland wildflower meadows, ancient woodland and heathlands, and species such as the dormouse and red squirrel.

Yesterday Mr Meacher confirmed that he hoped to combine legislation on the right to roam with protection for scientific sites. Sources close to the minister said the laws would protect almost 5,000 sites in England and Wales, with stiffer fines for landowners and farmers who damage them.

The laws, which would cover off-road activities of four-wheel-drive and motorcycle enthusiasts, would require offenders to repair damage.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Mardi Gra bomber 'has brain damage'

The judge in the Mardi Gra bombing case agreed yesterday to hear evidence from a neuropsychiatrist tomorrow after it was claimed that Edgar Pearce, 61, who has admitted planting 36 devices at Barclays banks and Sainsbury stores, is suffering from brain damage and should be sent to Broadmoor special hospital. Nadine Radford, QC, Pearce's counsel, said that a stroke had apparently triggered long-term deterioration that would be worsened by prison conditions. Michael Hyam, the Recorder of London, said at the Old Bailey that Pearce's condition seemed like that of many other men of his age who drank too much or who could be facing jail, but he wanted to make sure that Pearce, of Chiswick, West London, suffered no injustice.

Composer's funeral

Mourners filled Golders Green crematorium, London, to overflowing for the funeral of the composer Lionel Bart. One of his songs, *Where is Love?*, from *Oliver!*, was sung by the soprano Philip Cross before the committal prayers. Sir Cameron Mackintosh said: "He was continually pushing the boundaries of the musical forward." Donovan, the pop star, who knew Bart for 30 years, said: "There's not one songwriter I know whom Lionel has not influenced."

Yard sees interviews

Scotland Yard detectives were given legal access yesterday to material from the Granada TV interviews with the five suspects arrested for the murder of Stephen Lawrence. Michael Hyams, the Recorder of London, made an order for disclosure under the Police and Criminal Evidence Act during a hearing in chambers at the Old Bailey. The interviews, by Martin Bashir, were shown in the first edition of the *Tonight* programme broadcast last Thursday.

Clinton invitation

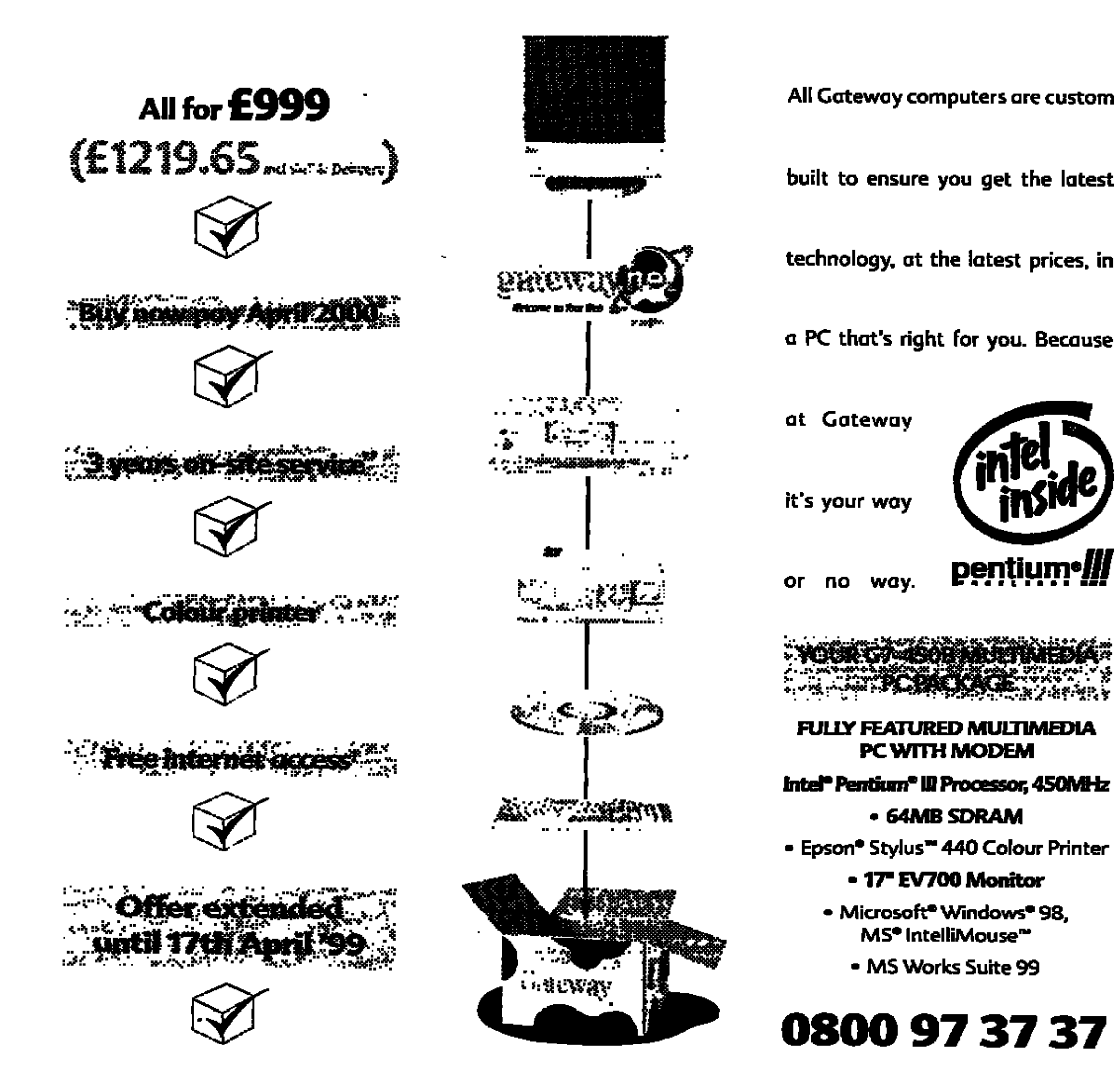
Hillary Clinton is to join Cherie Booth, QC, in addressing a conference of judges and lawyers in London next month on child abuse. Mrs Clinton, a lawyer with a longstanding interest in children and the law, is coming at the personal invitation of Ms Booth, who will chair the event, organised by the charity ChildLine. The conference will discuss improvements to the way the criminal and civil justice systems deal with children. Jack Straw, the Home Secretary, will also speak.

Search for cancer gene

Brothers and sisters born with a large number of moles are being recruited for research into the genes responsible for malignant melanoma, the most serious skin cancer, which kills 1,500 people a year. People with 50 or more moles are more susceptible to it, and doctors believe they carry the same genes that are responsible for the cancer. Volunteers, who should come from a family with at least three or four siblings, should telephone Doug Easton on 01223 740160.

Claws in the contract

The buyer of a 19th-century stone cottage for sale in the countryside near Bath will have to sign a contract agreeing to look after the current owner's cat. Diane Marriott said that she thought it would be unfair to uproot her six-year-old pet, Lily, from their home in the village of Timsbury when she moves to Birmingham. "Lily is a country cat," Ms Marriott said. "She knows the village like the back of her paw and all the neighbours love her."



Gateway Stores: Croydon The Whitgift Centre • Kingston The Bentall Centre • Covent Garden 10 Bedford Street
Manchester The Trafford Centre • Leeds 95 The Headrow • Kent The Bluewater Centre
Sales Phone Lines Open Monday to Friday 8am-10pm, Saturday 9am-6pm

©1999 Gateway 2000 Europe. All rights reserved. Gateway, Your:)Ware and the Gateway stylised logo are trademarks of Gateway 2000 Inc. The Intel Inside Logo and Pentium are registered trademarks of the Intel Corporation. All other brands and product names are trademarks or registered trademarks of their respective companies. All sales subject to Gateway 2000 Europe's standard terms and conditions (available on request) and limited warranty. All prices and configurations are subject to change without notice or obligation. All prices are quoted in Sterling. Available with all PCs with a modem. Terms and conditions apply. gateway.net technical support calls are charged at £1 a minute at all times. Offer applies to Windows 95 and 98 systems only. ** Terms and conditions apply, please call for details.

*BUY NOW, PAY APRIL 2000 – available on all our PCs. Typical example: Total cash price including VAT and delivery £1219.65. Loan value £1219.65. Repayments: one repayment in April 2000 of £1219.65. Total amount payable £1219.65 INTEREST FREE OR: Commencing April 2000, 30 monthly repayments of £54.53. Total amount payable £1635.90. APR 26.9%. Credit is available only to persons aged 18 years or over, subject to status. Written quotations available on request.



Transport yourself into another world with THE BEST BED ON EARTH!

Originally developed by NASA for the space programme, the TEMPUR® mattress moulds to your body for the most perfect night's sleep. The result is a feeling of floating in space.

Now this fabulous adjustable bed package is available as a single, king size or 6 foot size bed in a variety of styles and will be delivered to your door, literally in a box, ready assembled and ready to go.

Phone or send now for more details then try the bed in the comfort of your own home for 60 days.

If not delighted, we'll buy it back – no questions asked.



The TEMPUR® 2000 mattress moulds to your body and gives you a feeling of weightlessness

FREE! DELIVERY IN UK

NO REP WILL CALL - YOUR NEW BED WILL BE DELIVERED DIRECT!

OUR PROMISE TO YOU:
If the TEMPUR® 2000 ADJUSTABLE BED does not improve your quality of sleep within 60 days, we will buy it back at the original purchase price.

Prices start at just £1399 including VAT for the fully equipped, ready to go, luxury adjustable bed

For details on the UNIQUE TEMPUR®2000 System call us now on FREEPHONE
0800 616135 FREE VIDEO

Please send me more information on the TEMPUR® 2000 Adjustable Bed
Name ...
Address ...
Postcode ...
Telephone ...
Send to: Tempur Pedic (UK) Ltd FREEPOST (HA 4633) Hayes, Middlesex, UB3 1BR

TEMPUR 2000 SYSTEM

Animal lovers enlist Christ in meat war



One of PETA's earlier campaigns was directed at the fur trade, and won the support of stars such as Pamela Anderson

Activists challenge Texas ranchers on their home turf, Ian Brodie writes

THE billboard was deep in the Bible Belt, but it was also in the heart of cattle country, and beef won out over religion. After just three days the hoarding was gone, taken down amid a storm of controversy in Amarillo, Texas.

The advertisement had carried a bold and provocative headline: "Jesus Was a Vegetarian". In smaller type it read, "Show respect for God's creatures — follow Him". Alongside was a portrait of Jesus, with an orange slice for a halo.

The message was from People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (Peta), an activist group which has recruited Jesus to its campaign to stop the slaughter of animals.

Advertising in Amarillo was a calculated way of attracting publicity. After all, it was Amarillo cattlemen who sued Oprah Winfrey, seeking damages of $11 million (£6.9 million) from the television hostess for "defaming" the beef industry by raising the spectre of "mad cow" disease. They lost.

The question of whether Christ was in fact a vegetarian is stirring debate among Christians. Bruce Friedrich, Peta's vegetarian co-ordinator and a Roman Catholic, cites scholarly research as indicating that Christ belonged to the Essenes, a Jewish sect that according to some historians rejected animal sacrifices and were strict vegetarians.

Mr Friedrich argues that in biblical times animal sacrifice was an excuse for humans to eat animal flesh, but Christ challenged sacrifices at every turn. In Mr Friedrich's view, the Last Supper was a vegetarian Passover meal. He argues that Christ's message of compassion and love for all God's creation is obviously at odds with the miserable lives and violent deaths suffered by animals in factory farms and slaughterhouses. "He would be appalled by the degree of torture we inflict on fish and animals to indulge our acquired taste for their flesh," Mr Friedrich said.

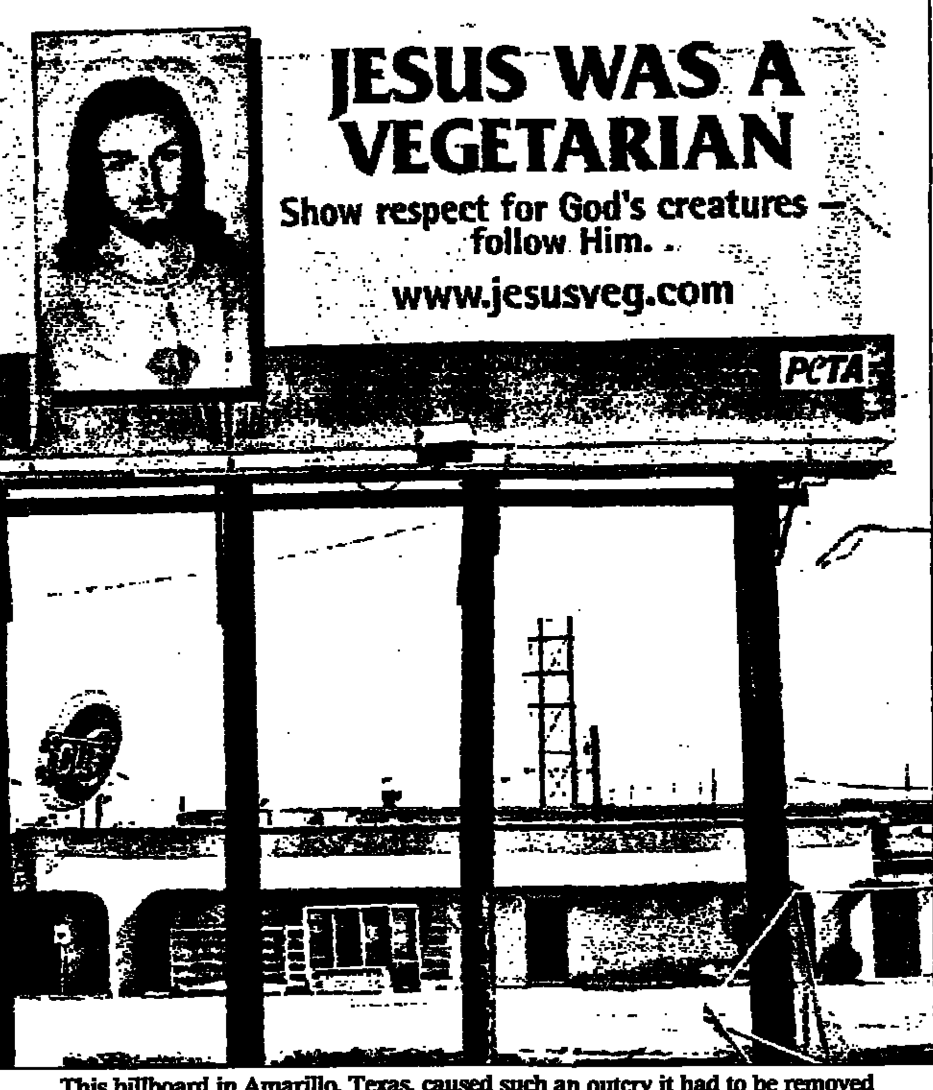
One apparent flaw in this viewpoint is Christ's miracle of the loaves and fishes. But Mr Friedrich insists that the early accounts mention only loaves, and the fish were added to the story later by Christians for whom the fish had become a symbol of their faith.

Peta's arguments were described as thin by Michael White, director of religious studies at the University of Texas in Austin. "This is just another cause making bad use of scripture," he said. True, there is no mention in the New Testament of Christ eating poultry, beef or lamb, but silence about the food consumed was no argument one way or the other, he added.

Peta expounds on why Christians should be vegetarians through its website, www.jesusveg.com. The animal-rights group also bombards religious leaders with letters and pamphlets. Mr Friedrich admitted that an appeal for slaughterhouses to close on Good Friday had produced no results.

From its headquarters in Virginia, Peta also wages fights against clothing made from leather and fur, vivisection, circuses and rodeos. The organisation has 600,000 members, including a London branch.

ROBERT MULHERN



This billboard in Amarillo, Texas, caused such an outcry it had to be removed

Church cash crisis hits poor parishes

Cost of pensions leaves too little for stipends, reports Ruth Gledhill

THE Church of England has left itself too little cash to pay for its day-to-day ministry in the most deprived areas of the country, the head of the Church Commissioners admitted yesterday.

Little more than a tenth of the cost of clergy pay is now being met from the central funds that are managed by the commissioners. Ten years ago more than half the cost of clergy stipends was met by the commissioners. One difficulty is the cost of pensions, which has doubled in ten years.

A set of radical proposals to help to raise funds for poor parishes has been presented to the new Archbishops' Council. It comes as parishioners have already doubled their giving, taking it to record levels in 1998.

The average donation through covenants and other methods of planned giving has increased from £3.40 a week in 1990 to £6 in 1997. Total giving, including the collection plate, has risen from an average of £1.94 to £3.15 over that time.

Wealthy dioceses such as Guildford and Chichester have already forgone any contribution from the commissioners to enable the poorer dioceses such as Durham, Liverpool and Sheffield to pay their clergy bill.

One diocese, Portsmouth, received £450,000 from the commissioners in 1992 to pay clergy but last year received only £32,000. Across all 43 dioceses, the commissioners pay an average 12 per cent, or £20 million, of the total stipends bill, compared with £66 million in 1991.

The proposals for fundraising, which have not been made public yet, were drawn up by the mutual support group set up after the Right Rev David Sheppard, the former Bishop of Liverpool, appealed for a fund to support the neediest parishes.

The Church is thought to be taking note of methods used in parishes that have raised large sums: at St Matthew's church in Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, worshippers pledged more than £500,000 in donations towards a refurbishment project in just one day. Worshippers at All Saints in Weston, Bath, pledged a similar sum in one day to refurbish the church hall.

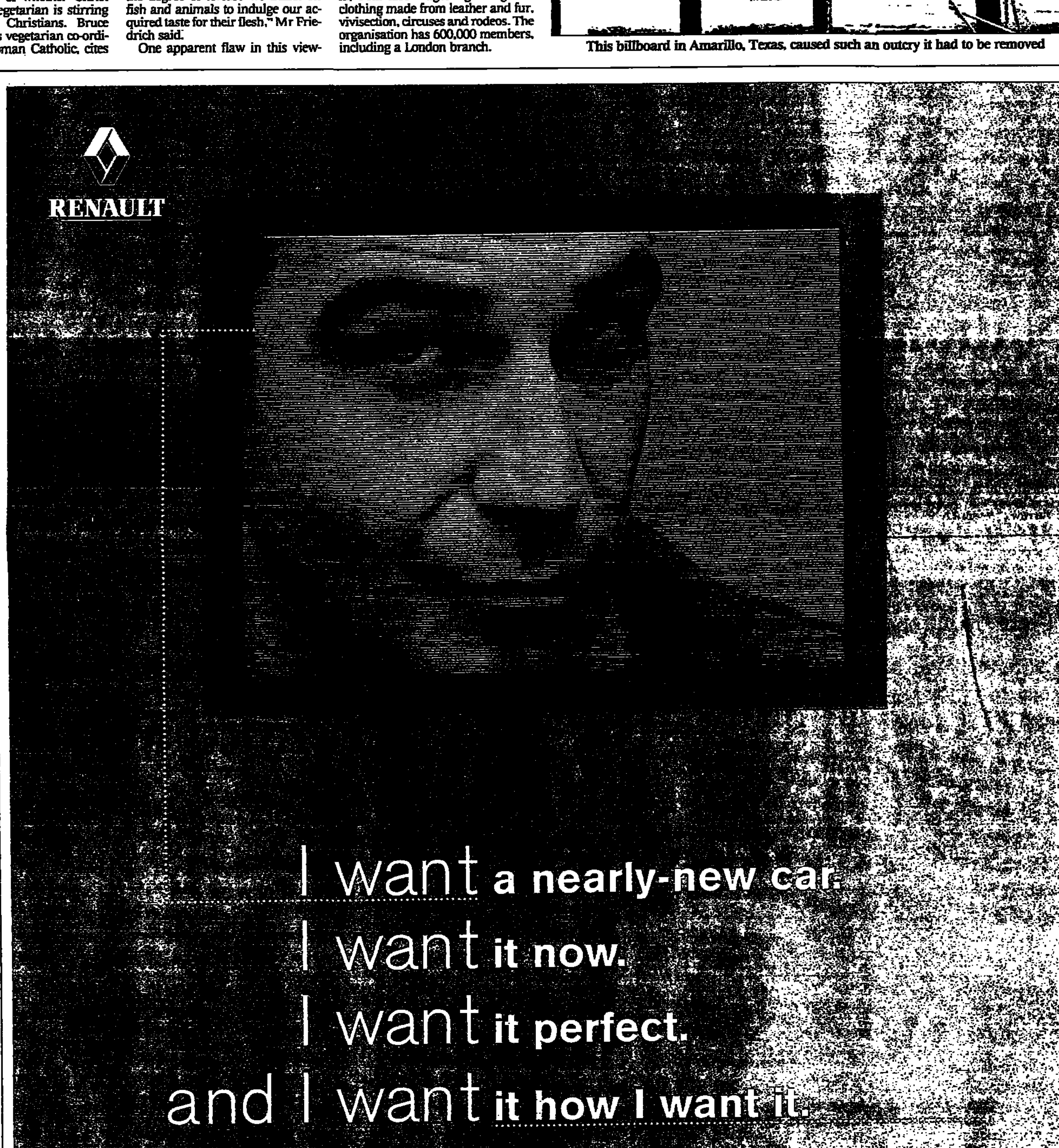
Sir Michael Colman, First Church Estates Commissioner, said: "There are areas where mission is needed but the money does not exist. By paying 100 per cent of past pension costs, we have left ourselves too little."

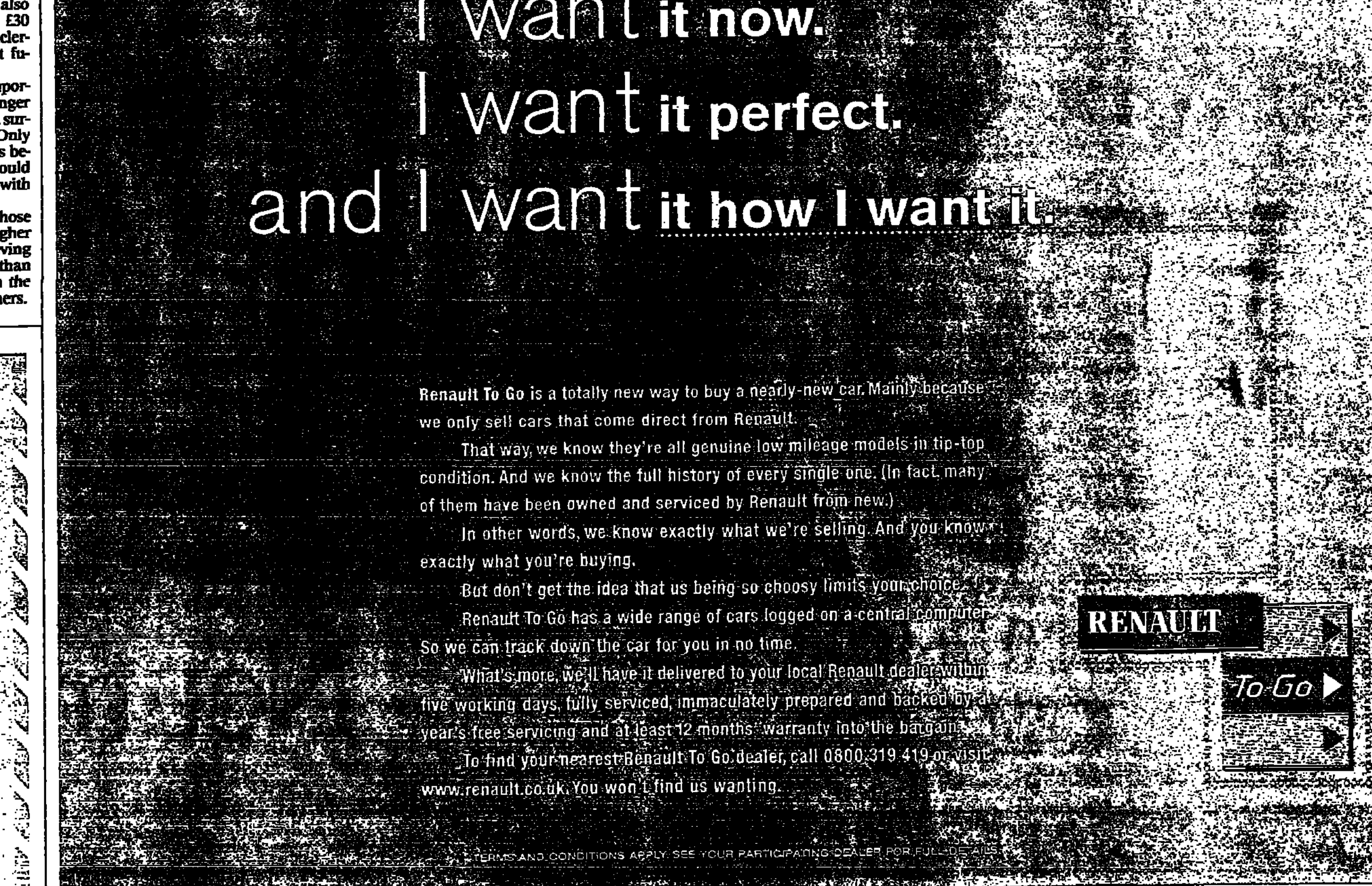
The problem dates from the 1980s, when the commissioners lost millions of pounds in property speculation. In order to meet the cost of pensions the commissioners have progressively cut the contribution to stipends. Parishes are also having to find an extra £30 million to pay into a new clergy pension fund to offset future pension costs.

☐ Mammon is more important than God for the younger generation, according to a survey published yesterday. Only 44 per cent of respondents believed that faith in God would help them to cope better with life's problems.

By contrast half of those aged 16-34 put money higher on the agenda than achieving greater fulfilment. More than 1,000 people took part in the survey for Plough publishers.







Labour thinks Scots will give them control

By Jason Allardyce, Scottish Political Reporter

LABOUR believes an outright majority in the Scottish parliament is now within its grasp.

Ministers were "cock-a-hoop" yesterday over a series of devastating poll results for the Scottish National Party, whose leader, Alex Salmond, may find his position in doubt.

Since Mr Salmond condemned the Nato bombings of Kosovo as "unpardonable folly" and pledged to raise income tax to invest in public services, support for the SNP has slumped. Opinion polls in the past few days have seen the SNP trailing Labour by up to 16 points, with Labour set to take up to 62 seats, just three short of a majority in the elections on May 6. The party led Labour by 15 points last summer. One leading SNP figure claimed: "Winning anything less than 40 seats would be very bad news and Alex would have to carry the can."

However, the SNP received a boost when trade unionists joined its condemnation of Labour's private finance initiatives for schools and hospitals. Unison, the largest public services union in Scotland, wants the new parliament to ditch the initiative and has lodged a motion at the Scottish Trades Union Congress annual meeting next week calling for it to be scrapped. The SNP has pledged to set up public service trusts as an alternative.

Unison will also call for services such as water and sewerage to be taken from quangos and returned to local, democratic control, again in line with SNP policy.

Donald Dewar, the Scottish Secretary, insisted yesterday that private finance initiatives were the way forward, arguing that they would help to build hospitals and fund vital improvements for schools.

In a further blow to Labour, the Kirkcaldy and District Trades Union Council will lodge a conference motion calling for the parliament to use its tax-raising powers to fund investment, echoing the SNP "Penny for Scotland" pledge.

Mr Salmond said: "Like the STUC I condemn the private finance initiatives. I welcome the clarity of the STUC position, just as I deplore the fact that the Labour Party are no longer representing mainstream Scotland."

Earlier Mr Dewar said that education would be at the heart of Labour's drive to win power in Scotland's first parliament for nearly 300 years. He pledged that, if elected, his first act as First Minister would be an "education for a nation" Act.

This would have five key elements: community schools to help to tackle poverty; state-of-the-art information technology for schools; a guarantee of a nursery place for all three and four-year-olds; restoring teachers to their traditional status by proper rewards for the best; and raising standards.

Michael Gove, page 18

SCOTTISH LABOUR'S KEY COMMITMENTS

- ☐ Deliver 100 new school developments and a minimum of four modern computers for every class
- ☐ Make it a statutory duty on the Education Minister to meet education standards
- ☐ No increase in income tax during the first term of the parliament, and 20,000 modern apprenticeships as a passport to real jobs
- ☐ Scottish Drug Enforcement Agency to clamp down on dealers
- ☐ Start eight hospital developments and launch the Scottish NHS Direct 24-hour telephone helpline
- ☐ Extend nursery provision so that every three-year-old has a place by the end of the first parliament
- ☐ Provide a guaranteed after-school place for every child
- ☐ Introduce radical land reform to secure public access and community ownership



ADAM BUTLER

Tony Blair ushers Romano Prodi into a London taxi after their meeting at Downing Street yesterday

EU diplomacy on a shoestring

Mark Inglefield sees the frugal side of the new Brussels chief

ROMANO PRODI, the incoming President of the European Commission, showed his indifference to the trappings of high office yesterday by arriving at Downing Street in a *London taxi cab*.

It was an appropriate gesture by the man who has been brought in to restore the reputation of the Brussels executive, which was badly damaged last month when the entire Commission resigned amid allegations of overspending and mismanagement.

The frugality of Signor Prodi, who had travelled from Rome for talks with the Prime Minister on the future of Europe, was further illustrated by his choice of a £351 one-way business-class British Airways flight from Rome to Gatwick. Most dignitaries would have opted for London's premier airport, Heathrow. Instead of being whisked into the city in a limousine, the right of even the humblest commissioner, Signor Prodi and his two aides paid £10.20 each to travel to Victoria station on the Gatwick Express.

Once there, the former Italian Prime Minister simply wandered past the ticket barrier, passed Burger King and WH Smith and joined the line at the taxi rank. In the afternoon he flew to Bonn for a meeting with Gerhard Schröder, the German Chancellor, also by business class.

Downing Street denied that Signor Prodi's travel arrangements were a stunt to show the Commission in a good light. "We had no idea he was turning up like this. They did not ask us to meet them," a spokesman said.

Signor Prodi is known for his lack of ostentation and delights in travelling by bicycle when he can. An EU spokesman suggested a further reason for his fiscal prudence: "I don't know who was paying for Signor Prodi. As he is not yet President it would not be us."

The spokesman denied that the former President had been lavish in his expenditure on travel. "Jacques Santer was probably the cheapest. He always drove his car to the airport," he said.

Blair puts economic record at heart of campaign

By Roland Watson, Political Correspondent

TONY BLAIR placed the Government's economic record at the heart of Labour's strategy for local, European, Scottish and Welsh elections yesterday.

The Prime Minister made clear that falling interest rates, reduced unemployment and low inflation would form the backdrop to the party's campaigning in the biggest mid-term popularity test any government has faced.

"New Labour is establishing itself as the party of economic competence in Britain today," Mr Blair said at the start of Labour's campaign for next month's domestic polls and the European elections, which follow in June.

Although all sides concede that campaigning will be overshadowed by the war in the Balkans, Mr Blair insisted that he would concentrate on the Government's domestic successes.

Labour has selected five areas that it will highlight under the slogan "Delivered by Labour, opposed by the Tories". These claims, which will appear on cards similar to those used to advertise the party's five key election pledges, are: an extra £40 billion for education and health; the minimum wage; halving youth unemployment; a record rise in child benefit; and bringing in the 10p starting rate for income tax alongside the lowest mortgage rates for 30 years.

Mr Blair, in a clear indication that Labour sees its chief opponents in Scotland and Wales as the SNP and Plaid Cymru, said that such achievements could be put at risk by nationalist victories.

"If the nationalists get in, there will be a heavy price to pay. Divorce is a costly business," he said.

In the local government elections, Labour is defending the high-water mark achieved four years ago, when the 13,000 council seats up for grabs on May 6 were last contested. Then, at the height of Tory unpopularity, the party took 47 per cent of the vote and gained 2,000 seats, four times the previous record.

Nationalists will seek a stronger Welsh assembly

By Valerie Elliott

WALES should aim for its own tax-raising and law-making powers, Plaid Cymru said yesterday at the launch of its manifesto for the Welsh assembly.

Dafydd Wigley, the Plaid Cymru president, said his party was not calling for an independent Wales, but he believed the assembly should be given primary legislative powers for all responsibilities devolved to it within four years. "Plaid Cymru has never advocated independence. Our objective has been full self-government for Wales. As we build up our confidence in our country, then I believe people will want to take more powers," he said.

The manifesto outlines a strategy for Welsh MPs at Westminster to use every procedural device, including private Bills, to force through greater powers for the assembly.

The document, *Working for the New Wales*, says that the assembly should take control of the railways and upgrade the line between North and South Wales, as well as establish a Welsh passenger transport authority.

The 80 policy proposals also include the creation of youth development forums around Wales to give young people a greater say in their future. The party suggests that young offenders should serve their punishment under supervision in their own community rather than than being detained.

Plaid Cymru wants to ensure that Wales becomes a fully bilingual nation and that it also has a greater voice in Europe by creating an assembly minister charged with that task. The party calls for higher charges for Welsh water exported to England in order to reduce water bills for Welsh households.

Mr Wigley denounced Tony Blair's "middle-England" policies for Wales. He is determined to exploit the difficulties over the recent Welsh Labour leadership contest, and claimed that a vote for Alun Michael, Labour's candidate for leadership of the Welsh assembly, would lead to a continued Blairite agenda for Wales.

Mr Wigley said that Labour in office had disappointed the people of Wales. "They have in many ways implemented the Conservatives' social and economic policies, which continue to treat Wales as a colony governed by diktat."

Peter Hain, the Welsh Office Minister, hit back by claiming that Plaid Cymru was still following a separatist agenda that would leave Wales £6 billion in the red. The sum, he said, was the difference between what was being spent by the Government in Wales and what Welsh people paid in taxes. The cost of separation from Britain "would be the biggest divorce settlement in history".

Save on your international calls. *Add* Swiftcall to your BT phone.



COST PER MINUTE	BT*	SWIFTCALL	SAVING
USA	19p	9p	53%
JAPAN	49p	16p	[illegible]
INDIA	89p	50p	44%
AUSTRALIA	35p	16p	54%
SOUTH AFRICA	61p	36p	41%

COST PER MINUTE	BT*	SWIFTCALL	SAVING
GERMANY	21p	14p	[illegible]
FRANCE	21p	14p	33%
IRELAND	16p	10p	38%
TAIWAN	86p	42p	51%
CANADA	19p	12p	[illegible]

Open a Swiftcall account today and make immediate savings on calls to anywhere in the world. ● No need to change your existing



number or phone line. ● No hidden charges. ● Quality Customer Service and clear lines. ● Open an account for as little as £25.

TO OPEN YOUR SWIFTCALL ACCOUNT:

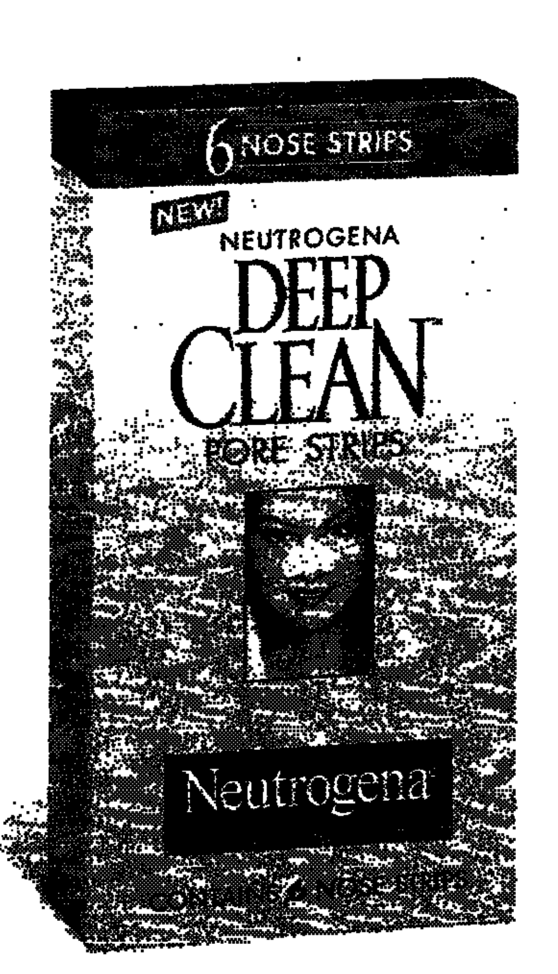
CALL FREE 0800 769 0022 TODAY

SWIFTCALL

SWIFTCALL is part of KDD, Japan's leading international telecommunications company

LOW COST INTERNATIONAL CALLS

Deep Clean Pore Strips. Take away blackheads, add 200 Boots Advantage points.



There's no better way to remove blackheads from your nose than Neutrogena Deep Clean Pore Strips. And gain 200 points on your Boots Advantage Card. These dermatologist-tested strips work in two ways. First, they instantly and effectively remove clogged pores and blackheads. And second, they absorb excess oil that can create them in the first place. So, with Neutrogena Deep Clean Pore Strips, you can be sure your pores are completely clean and oil free for just £4.99. And those points on your Boots Advantage Card look healthier too.

Neutrogena®

Recommended by dermatologists

Offer is subject to availability, while stocks last, at participating Boots stores from 24/03/99 to the 20/04/99 inclusive.



Academics split hairs in squabble over origin of specimens


Andaman tribe: row has thwarted study of their origins

By Nigel Hawkes, science editor

THE search for man's origins has been stymied by an academic dispute at Cambridge over the ownership of a few twists of hair.

The hair, taken 90 years ago by a British anthropologist from Andaman tribesmen on islands in the Bay of Bengal, contains evidence that could prove them to be descendants of the first humans to leave man's birthplace in Africa.

DNA from the hair closely matches that from the Khoisan, the Bushmen and Hottentots of South Africa, and is much less closely related to the Asian populations. This strongly supports the "Out of Africa" theory of human origins, which holds that the first modern humans left Africa to colonise the rest of the world 100,000 years ago.

But publication of the results has been blocked by claims that Erika Hagelberg, the leader of the research team, did not have permission to take the hair from the Duckworth Collection in the Department of Biological Anthropology at Cambridge.

Robert Foley, director of the collection, has refused to grant permission retrospectively in what he says is a defence of ethical standards. "With a collection as valuable as this, one has to have proper procedures, particularly when experiments involve destruction of material gathered many years ago."

Dr Hagelberg, who has now left Cambridge for a job in New Zealand, said: "Scientific materials in universities are there to be studied, and this is what was done."

The research was carried out by Carlos Lalueza Fox of the University of Barcelona, working in Dr Hagelberg's group at the Department of Biological Anthropology. It involved analysing hair collected from the Andaman islanders in 1907 by Alfred Radcliffe-Brown.

Dr Hagelberg had originally sought permission to use



the hair for a project that came to nothing. When, on Dr Fox's arrival, she revived the project she saw no need to renew the permission.

Dr Fox found that the sequence of the DNA extracted from the samples more closely matched that of South Africans than it did any Asian population. In particular, it showed that the Andamanese do not share a particular mutation of the DNA associated with later migrations, which occurred at about the time that agriculture was discovered 6,000 to 8,000 years ago. The value of using old hair is that it was collected before the Andamanese had much contact with outsiders and the chance to intermarry.

The implication of the study is that the Andamanese are the descendants of a much earlier hunter-gatherer group that had no later contact with agricultural peoples. "They are, in effect, the descendants of the earliest migrations of Homo sapiens out of Africa," Dr Hagelberg said.

The results are of great interest to anthropologists but if they remain unpublished their value will be lost.

Dr Foley said that rules on use of specimens were essential. "Many cultures are very sensitive about the use of specimens collected, often without their permission, many years ago. We have to be sensitive to that, and it is important to show that we look after the specimens properly."

Dr Hagelberg said: "It's not a question of someone breaking in in the middle of the night and stealing specimens. The work was done while I was still a member of the department."

Young go bankrupt to clear rising debt

Easy credit lies behind bills of up to £20,000, report **Alexandra Frean** and **Christine Middap**

INCREASING numbers of young people are declaring themselves bankrupt after building up thousands of pounds of debt on credit cards and in student loans.

Citizens Advice Bureau money advisers say they are seeing an alarming rise in the number of teenagers and people in their early twenties burdened with debts of up to £20,000 that they will never be able to repay. They say that financial institutions that virtually "throw money" at young people, and the failure of schools to teach pupils how to handle personal finances, are largely to blame.

Julian Ruck, manager of the money advice unit at the Norwich bureau, said that young people with debts above £10,000 often opted for bankruptcy because they saw it as the only way of freeing themselves from the relentless pursuit of creditors, even though it could stain their reputations for life. "What else are you going to do if a young individual has no hope of ever paying? In some respects it is better to give them a fresh start." Those with debts of up to £5,000 were more likely to have administration orders taken out against them, which require them to make regular repayments.

Mr Ruck added that young women were particularly vulnerable to storecard debt because of the availability of credit from clothing and shoe retailers. "Debt is an enormous problem today. It is so easy now to build up debts of £10,000 or £20,000. The problem is, once they have plastic, it becomes easier for them to get even more plastic."

LINKS

www.nacab.org.uk/uk/web/nacab/support/welfare_benefits.html National Association of Citizens Advice Bureaux
www.poptel.org.uk/cab/updatepr.html News on legal changes and other areas of public interest

Nigel Barnard, a senior money adviser at the Cambridge bureau, highlighted the case of a 19-year-old unemployed man offered a £9,000 loan by Barclays Bank: he was on jobseeker's allowance of £39 a week. "He received a letter from the bank telling him what a wonderful customer he'd been and would he like a £9,000 loan. Fortunately he didn't take the full £9,000, but he did take a £6,800 loan and we're now trying to negotiate with the bank because he can't afford to pay anything."

In another case, a 16-year-old with a bank account ran up debt when he was given a credit card. Mr Barnard said: "They [the bank] didn't pursue it when we pointed out that he was too young to sign a contract anyway."

A spokesman from the British Bankers' Association denied that banks lent money irresponsibly to young people who could not afford to repay it. "Once a bank has given somebody a credit card and agreed a credit limit with them, it has no control over that person going elsewhere to get another card."

A spokesman for the Consumer Credit Trade Association said that it had noticed an increase in the number of young people with debts since the introduction of student loans.

WHEN IT ALL GETS TOO MUCH

Bankruptcy enables people with debts of at least £750 to make a fresh start. Once declared bankrupt by a court, the Official Receiver will distribute the bankrupt's assets among his creditors. It then becomes a criminal offence to obtain credit of £250 or more, carry on business in a different name or open a new bank or building society account without disclosing bankruptcy. Someone who is bankrupt may not become an MP or a magistrate. It is possible to be discharged from bankruptcy and released from most debts after three years but such a person may not regain control of all their assets for several years.

Other options are individual voluntary agreements — a formal understanding with creditors to repay debts; or an administration order to pay regular amounts to court to repay debts of up to £5,000.

As debts grew, Kath went shopping

KATH, 21, from Norwich, has debts of £9,500 and nothing to show for them. The car she bought at the age of 18 with a £3,000 loan from NatWest had to be sold to pay for its many repairs. The make-up, clothes and household items have all gone. For the past two years she has been living rent-free with her parents.

She has further debts of £2,000 with NatWest, two Barclaycards, each carrying about £1,500 debt, and a Sears store card on which she owes about £1,500. At least £3,000 of what she owes is interest.

Her husband, a private in the Army, cannot afford to pay the debts. With a month to go before the birth of her first child, she is not able to get work. "I had a regular job in catering and thought I could handle money," she said. "But then I moved job and went into sales, and the company I worked for did not pay me. That is when it all started to go wrong. Debts just built up because I still had to pay for petrol and my mobile phone out of my own pocket. Because I was so depressed, I used to go out shopping. I once spent £500 in a day." With Citizens Advice Bureau help, Kath has arranged repayments of £1 a month. She now has to decide whether to petition for bankruptcy.


Beaten by debt: William Roache, right, and Johnny Briggs in *Coronation Street*. Mr Roache owes about £500,000

Soap star sunk by legal bills

By Russell Jenkins

WILLIAM ROACHE, the veteran *Coronation Street* actor, has petitioned for bankruptcy after accruing debts of about £500,000.

Roache, who earns £165,000 a year for his role as Ken Barlow in the series, ran up huge legal bills from a libel case and decided to declare himself bankrupt before one of his creditors forced him to.

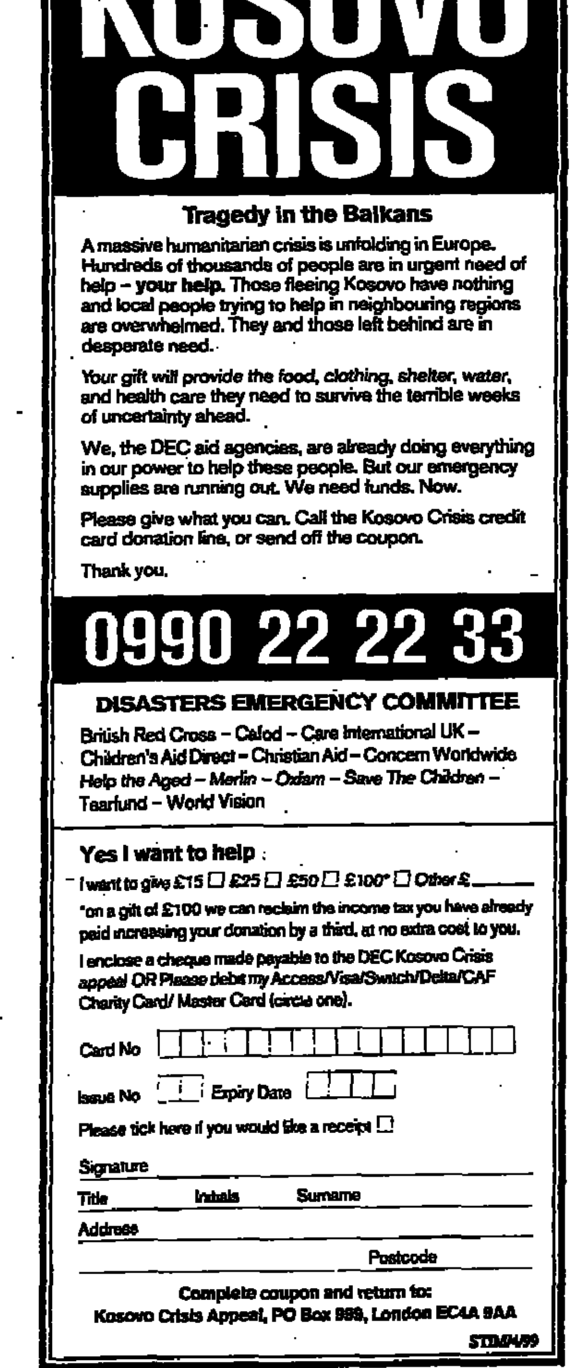
After a meeting with the Official Receiver, a trustee will be appointed to manage his estate, collect his assets and distribute them among his creditors.

The trustee has the power to sell the 66-year-old actor's home and car and take charge of his salary, leaving him a living allowance. But it is thought that the £315,000 cottage in Cheshire that he shares with his wife, Sara, is safe.

Roache's financial problems began when he sued *The Sun* after the newspaper said that he was boring and hated by his colleagues. He won the case, but was awarded only £50,000 — the sum previously offered to him as an out-of-court settlement. This left him legal costs estimated at £120,000. The costs mounted when he unsuccessfully sued his law firm, Peter Carter-Ruck and Partners, for negligence over its handling of the libel action in 1992.

KOSOVA CATASTROPHE
Muslim Aid Appeal
Over a million Kosovans brutalised, expelled and turned into destitute.
They need food. They need shelter. They need clothing. They need medical aid. They need care. Your care.
They need all your thoughts!
According to the Qur'an, whether they ask or not ask, the destitute have the right over our wealth (Al-Dhariyat 51:19).
Please donate now and donate generously.
We also need new clothes, canned Halal food, medicines, sleeping bags, blankets and warehouse space.
Founded in 1985, Muslim Aid is in the forefront of humanitarian work in Kosova and Albania.
Credit Card Hotline 0171-609 4425
FREEPOST PO Box 3 London N7 8LR mail@muslimaid.org.uk
SKT
Yes! I want to help the suffering Kosovans.
I enclose cheque/postal order for £10☐ £25☐ £100☐ £250☐ Other £ ______
☐ Please charge my Access / Visa / Master / Switch / Amex by £ ______
Credit Card Number / Expiry Date
Mr/Mrs/Miss
Address
Postcode Phone ( )
Charity Regd No 295224

HAVE YOU HAD A PROBLEM WITH A DOCTOR?
Did you contact the General Medical Council?
If so, we'd like to hear from you
Consumers' Association, publisher of *Health Which?* magazine, is conducting a survey on the General Medical Council. If you're willing to share your experience with us - whether good or bad - we'd be grateful for your help. Call freephone **0800 920196**. Leave your name and address and we'll send you a questionnaire. Alternatively, send a postcard with your name and address to Dept SW, Which?, Freepost, Hertford X, SG14 1LH. All completed questionnaires must reach us by **Friday 28th May**.
All replies treated in the strictest confidence
Thank you for your help



DEC, 52 Gt Portland Street, London W1N 5AH

YOUR HOME IS AT RISK IF YOU DO NOT KEEP UP REPAYMENTS ON A MORTGAGE OR OTHER LOAN SECURED ON IT. Borrowers must be aged 18 or over and reside in the UK. All mortgages are subject to status, valuation and conditions. A first charge over the property will be required. Life cover to repay the amount outstanding at any time on the mortgage is required. A written quotation is available on request. The actual rate of interest is dependent on the loan. Typical example: For a loan of no more than 90% of the value of the property if you borrow £40,000 over 25 years and opt for our 5 year fixed rate of 5.99% (APR 6.9%) your net monthly payments would be £184.69 for the first 60 months and £214.29 for the remaining 240 months. This example assumes that at the end of the fixed rate term you will revert to our standard variable rate – currently 6.95% (APR 7.2%). Net monthly payments show the benefit of tax relief at 10% under the MIRAS scheme. MIRAS is calculated under current tax legislation and may alter. It is available on the first £30,000 of the mortgage only. The total amount repayable is £108,052 gross and this includes an electronic funds transfer fee of £25. The cost of any agreement put in place to repay capital has not been included in this example. Rate is current as at 4th March 1999 and is subject to variation. An administration charge of £85 is payable if the mortgage is redeemed before the end of the term. Mortgages are not available in the Channel Islands or the Isle of Man. For your added security, all telephone calls to Prudential will be recorded and/or monitored. Prudential financial consultants only advise on products offered by the Prudential Marketing Group.

PRUDENTIAL
'All the security of a fixed rate mortgage with none of the pitfalls!'
If you like the reassurance of knowing exactly how much your mortgage repayments will be each month, whatever happens to interest rates, then a fixed rate mortgage could well be for you.
5.99% FIXED FOR FIVE YEARS 6.9% APR
Many of those mortgages that give you a fabulously low rate up front also have some catches when the fixed rate is finished.
There are no catches like this with a fixed rate mortgage from Prudential. You don't have to buy anything else from us, and when your fixed rate period comes to an end, we simply offer you another deal.
For a mortgage with no hidden nasties, why not call us and we'll arrange for one of our mortgage consultants to visit you? Together you can decide on the mortgage that suits you perfectly.
So if you want a first mortgage that fits you like a glove, not a straitjacket, ring us now.
THE MAN FROM THE PRU.
Call 0800 000 000
8AM TO 8PM, 7 DAYS A WEEK (QUOTE: HFP069)
The man from the Pru will come to you.
Or find us on the internet at www.pru.co.uk

Age of consent for young gay men

Whose side are you on?

Against equality	In favour of equality
Baroness Young	NSPCC
	Save the Children
	Barnardos
	NCH Action For Children
	British Medical Association
	Royal College of Nursing
	Family Welfare Association
	National Union of Teachers
	The House of Commons
	and 66% of the British public...

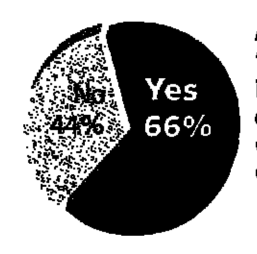
The age of consent for young gay men. Controversial? Not any more.

An equal age of consent at 16 is supported by all the major organisations concerned with the welfare of Britain's young people. By medical opinion. By the House of Commons. And by two thirds of the British public – as now proved in an independent NOP poll*.

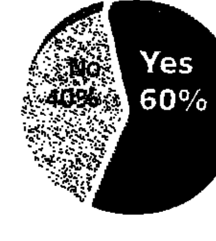
Tonight, the Bill to make equality a reality – and also protect all young people from exploitation by adults in authority – will go before the House of Lords. It is no longer a minority issue. But one minority still stands in the way.

Lady Young and her supporters intend to throw out the Sexual Offences (Amendment) Bill at Second Reading, a step the Lords have taken only twice since the Second World War. If she succeeds, she will deny **all** young people the right to equal protection and equal treatment under the law.

Please ask yourself whose side you are on. Ask why Lady Young's supporters are preparing tonight to defy the House of Commons, expert opinion and the majority of the British public. Then write to Stonewall to find out how you can give your support to the continuing fight for equality.



NOP poll question: 'Do you believe that in Britain the age of consent should be equal for everyone or not?'



NOP poll question: 'Do you agree with the Government's proposals [in the Sexual Offences (Amendment) Bill]?'

* NOP poll conducted between 11 and 16 February 1999 among 1,957 people representative of all adults in Great Britain

I'm on the side of equality

Please send me information about Stonewall's campaigns and how I can help.

Name

Address

Postcode

Return to Stonewall, 16 Clerkenwell Close, London EC1R 0AN

Stonewall
Working for lesbian and gay equality

Stonewall depends on donations from people who believe in equality. 0171 336 8860

Four die as 'hanging train' crashes

Up to 40 are injured as world's safest train plunges into river, reports Tony Paterson in Berlin

GERMANY'S reputation as a nation of engineering giants in which cars rarely breakdown and trains work like clockwork was seriously damaged yesterday when what was regarded as the world's safest train crashed, killing four people and leaving nearly 40 others badly injured.

Initial investigations into what caused an overhead rail train in the Ruhr city of Wuppertal to drop out of its tracks and plunge 30ft into a river below revealed that a metal clamp had been left in position on the monorail after renovation work.

"The clamp should not have been there, although it is unclear whether it played a role in the accident," Hans-Jochen Blette, a spokesman for the Wuppertal city fire brigade, said.

The train was the first to run yesterday morning after the track was closed for the weekend because of the maintenance work.

Two people died instantly while a third passenger was found dead 500 yards away in the Wupper River. A fourth victim later died in hospital.

The number of injured was revised several times during the day but could be higher than 39. There were more than 50 passengers in the suspended train.

Witnesses said the two-carriage train, filled with morning commuters, suddenly dropped from its overhead monorail shortly before 6am local time and dropped into the Wupper.

One of the train's blue and orange painted carriages broke in two after hitting a heating pipeline.

None of the passengers was trapped inside, rescue officials said, adding that the fall onto the pipeline, part of a long-distance heating network, could have saved some lives.

Fire and ambulance crews dragged crash victims from the river and ferried them to city hospitals. Many victims pulled themselves from the river and relied on residents who provided initial first aid treatment.

"There was a massive bang then nothing," said Alexander Marinus, a resident living near the scene of the crash.

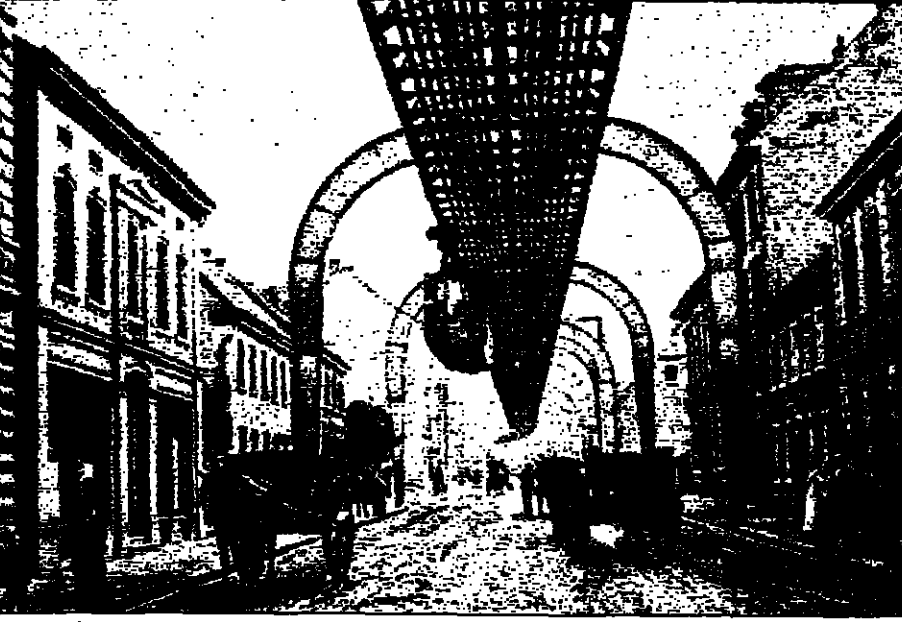
"The injured were suffering from severe wounds. Some were badly concussed. We managed to treat some of them in our hallway before the ambulance arrived," he said.

The Wuppertal transit authority last night said that any possible link between the maintenance works and the accident would be investigated thoroughly.



KARL-HEINZ KREPFELTS / AP

The wreckage of yesterday's fatal train crash strewn across the Wupper River



BARRY NORMAN COLLECTION

The hanging railway circa 1900, when it was regarded as a technological marvel

Civic pride led to disaster

FROM TONY PATERSON
IN BERLIN

WUPPERTAL'S "hanging" overhead railway was considered a technological marvel and a monument to German engineering skill when it was inaugurated by the Kaiser in March 1900.

Until yesterday, the train had carried about 1.49 billion passengers along its eight miles of suburban track without loss of life or serious accident. It was reputed to be one of the world's safest trains.

Designed by the Cologne engineer Eugen Langen, the *Schwebebahn* or "hanging" railway travels suspended from overhead tracks that wind their way through Wuppertal supported by iron girders about 30ft above the River Wupper.

Civic pride seems to have been one of the reasons behind the crash. The authorities were giving the railway a DM490 million (£170 million) facelift in time for its hundredth anniversary.

The project, which involves rebuilding 16 of the 19 turn-of-the-century stations, has been opposed by environmentalist and citizens' protest groups which have demanded that the "hanging" train's original character should be preserved.

Although the train's historic significance means that it is subject to a preservation order, the city authorities insisted that a modernisation of the network was necessary to cope with the increasing number of passengers.

At the time of yesterday's derailment, work had started on several of the stations. The entire rail-and-girder support system for the train was also being renewed.

Suharto's son faces corruption charges

BY DAVID WATTS
ASIA EDITOR

INDONESIANS intent on bringing former President Suharto to book over corruption got a boost yesterday when his youngest son was formally charged with the offence.

Hutomo "Tommy" Mandala Putra, 37, once "given" a national car firm by his father, is the first member of the former ruling family to face trial for corruption. The Suharto clan fortune is estimated at $10-$18 billion (£6-£11 billion). At the height of the boom the total value of the family fortune was probably more like $40 billion.

Many Indonesians see a settling of those corruption charges as a prerequisite to launching the country on a new, democratic trajectory and and do not want the smaller fry of the family to divert attention from the real target.

Mr Mandala Putra is accused of corruption in a property deal. Since his father was ousted from office last May, his airline, Sempati, has gone bankrupt; he has sold his share of Lamborghini, the Italian sports car maker; his national Timor car project has been cancelled and tax benefits it enjoyed have to be paid back while his monopoly on cloves has been cancelled.

WORLD IN BRIEF

Tokyo mayor seeks return of US base

Tokyo: Shintaro Ishihara, the nationalist elected as Governor of Tokyo, yesterday appealed to the Japanese to reduce their dependence on the United States, and called for the return of a vital US military base (Robert Whymant writes).

A day after his election victory, Mr Ishihara, 66, a writer and former Transport Minister, enraged the Foreign Ministry by renewing a controversial campaign pledge to expel American military forces from the the vast Yokota Air Base in Tokyo. Mr Ishihara, who ran as an independent, said the Japanese "have too much faith" in the US and that relations would improve if the base was returned, or at least shared by the two nations.

Israel fury at Nazi jibe

Jerusalem: On the eve of memorial day for the six million victims of the Holocaust, the Israeli Army filed an official complaint with the World Bank after its representative in the West Bank and Gaza Strip compared Israeli soldiers to the Nazis (Christopher Walker writes). The incident was reported in *The Jerusalem Post* which disclosed a telephone conversation between the World Bank official, Joseph Saba, and an Israeli soldier.

Back from the grave

New York: Looking fit but slightly wobbly, David Blaine, a magician, climbed out of a coffin — buried 6ft deep — that had been his home for seven days. Spectators cheered when the 3-tonne tank of water that covered the transparent coffin was lifted, and Mr Blaine sat up and smiled. "I saw something very prophetic . . . a vision of every race, every religion, every age group banding together, and that made this worthwhile," he said. *(AP)*

Kennedy fraud trial

Washington: A former lawyer went on trial charged with forging hundreds of documents that tainted the reputation of President Kennedy and fooled investigative reporters and television networks (Ben Macintyre writes). Lawrence X. Cusack III had denied fraud in connection with the so-called "JFK papers", which included documents suggesting that Kennedy had an affair with Marilyn Monroe and then paid hush money to keep her quiet.

BANK OF SCOTLAND® INTEREST RATE CHANGE.

With effect from 8th of April 1999, interest rates payable on the undernoted accounts have changed.



Britannic GROUP SERVICES

BRITANNIC GROUP SERVICES LIMITED IN ASSOCIATION WITH BANK OF SCOTLAND

BRITANNIC SOVEREIGN ACCOUNT	AER%†	Gross%*	Net%**
Balances up to £1,999	3.04%	3.00%	2.40%
Balances from £2,000 to £4,999	4.07%	4.00%	3.20%
Balances from £5,000	4.59%	4.50%	3.60%

BANK OF SCOTLAND®

LATEST OLYMPUS CAMERA WORTH £549 FREE WITH THIS PENTIUM® III PC

SALE STILL ON! CALL NOW FOR DETAILS



NOTHING TO PAY UNTIL APRIL 2000 *On All Systems*

97 SHOWROOMS NATIONWIDE OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK* Carmarthen & Kings Lynn OPENING SOON.

SPECIAL OFFER £1299 ex VAT £1526.33 inc VAT

PRICES EXCLUDE DELIVERY

VISIT YOUR LOCAL TINY SHOWROOM OR CALL FREEPHONE FOR MORE INFORMATION

tiny 0800 731 9372

TINY OnLine FREE Internet access on all Tiny systems NOW

think big about your PC...*think* tiny

TINY COMPUTERS LIMITED, REDHILL BUSINESS PARK, BONEHURST ROAD, SALFORDS, REDHILL, SURREY RH1 5YB. FAX 01293 822 514. www.tiny.com

0% NOTHING TO PAY FOR 12 MONTHS – NOT EVEN A DEPOSIT 26.9% APR

Easing illness with animals

Is companionship with pets therapeutic? **Anjana Ahuja** reports on the use of pets to help seriously ill children, while **Emily Wilcox** says a feline friend is helping her recovery



Pet theory: infants are thought to gain much from the unconditional love proffered by a pet and some people believe that it helps them to cope better with post-surgery stress

Psychologists have spent the past few years proving what cat-owners have known for a lifetime — that looking after a pet can be immensely therapeutic. Playing with and caring for an animal is not only rewarding in its own right, it can also have measurable beneficial effects.

As a group, pet-owners are said to have lower blood pressure and lower cholesterol than those without pets, with one study even showing that people who suffer heart attacks are likely to make a swifter recovery if they have a furry companion. Animal lovers manage stress better, are more sociable and even have happier marriages than their creatureless compatriots. The elderly and the very young appear particularly responsive to pets.

The research has spawned a variety of pet therapy schemes — with names such as Pet-a-Pet and Caring Canines — in children's hospitals and nursing homes in America, and Britain is following suit.

The Children in Hospital and Animal Therapy Association (Chata) was founded six years ago by Sandra Stone, a former children's nurse who came to believe in pet power when she joined an animal welfare charity. "About ten years ago a colleague went with her two beautiful lurcher dogs to visit a home for the elderly in Cambridgeshire," Mrs Stone recalls. "It was just after tea, the residents were sitting round in a semi-circle touching and cuddling the animals and laughing and talking. It was a great way to get people to communicate.

"At one end, though, was a very quiet chap who, the nurses told us, never spoke to anybody. I asked him if he would like to say hello to the dogs. It was like releasing a valve. He had never spoken before but as soon as he touched the animals, he started pouring out all these emotions. Some of the staff were in tears. It was a very moving moment. That's when I thought that this could work for children."

Mrs Stone, who runs Chata with her husband Ronnie, now works mainly with terminally ill children in London hospitals, including Guy's in South London and Chase Farm in North London. Volunteers must hold either a medical qualification (many are nurses and doctors) or be qualified to work with children (such as teachers or social workers).

Chata worked on a pilot study with doctors at Chase Farm to ascertain whether animal therapy could relieve pain, as some patients have claimed. Sixty children who underwent ear and nose surgery had access to animals after surgery; 60 did not. Pain was assessed on three scales — how the children felt, how the parents felt their child had coped, and the level of painkilling drugs used.

The results were inconclusive, with a negligible difference between the two groups. But Dr Ian Pollock, the paediatrician at Chase Farm who coordinated the study, believes the approach is valuable nonetheless: "The impression we got was that children who had animal therapy did better but that was not borne out by the figures. I think that was more to do with the design of the pilot study, though. We probably used the wrong patient group because the operations are not that painful.

"The other problem is that patients and parents tend to be satisfied with whatever we do. We may try another study on children who have had more serious operations. Having said that, I do believe the benefits are real, and it clearly helps children with problems such as depression. It distracts them and helps them to come out of themselves."

Mrs Stone says that children in comas have responded to rabbits, guinea-pigs and dogs.

She attributes the success of the scheme to the fact that an animal asks nothing of a child but love.

"It's unconditional, non-judgmental," she says. "If you are a sick child, people always want something from you: the nurse pressing you to take your drugs, a teacher asking for schoolwork. An animal is a visitor that doesn't expect anything. And it gives the child the chance to be a carer. They can feed the dog or guinea-pig. It's a powerful therapy."

Her optimism is inevitably tempered by the sadness that comes with working with ill children. "But we can also be strong," she says, "because we know that we have done our best to raise their self-esteem and improve their quality of life for as long as possible."

In September at Guy's, Chata will start a study similar to that conducted at Chase Farm. Dr Melinda Edwards, a psychologist, will assist.

● *Chata, 87 Longland Drive, London N20 8HN; telephone 0181-445 7883.*



A cat that cures despair

I was told that I had chronic fatigue syndrome in 1995 when I was 17. I continued to deteriorate until the summer of 1996, when my symptoms became rapidly severe. My eyes became so sensitive that daylight gave me migraines, and I had to have duvets pinned over the white cotton curtains in my bedroom. The discomfort in my neck, back and legs became real pain and then one day my legs could no longer support me. Although I longed to run away, I could not even walk. I was scared and deeply shocked that my body had become my enemy.

In October 1996 I was admitted to BUPA Hartwood Hospital in Essex, where Lindsey Barker, an occupational therapist, taught me a management programme to control the illness. Very gently we coerced my body into recovery mode. I sat out of bed 15 minutes a day, had the curtains open for ten minutes at a time and read for one minute by forcing my aching eyes along the print. Since I left hospital in December 1996, I have made slow, stubborn progress at home.

Last September I was well enough to start A-level lessons at the Fine Arts College in Belsize Park. As my mobility is still limited, I use the wheelchair in airports and theatres, while at home I depend on a stairlift to get about the house.

Whereas my unhappiness used to be passive, my desire to be well is now so strong that it is difficult for me to live with. Aware of my increasing impatience and frustration, my parents decided to give me a love object: a kitten.

She arrived from the RSPCA rescue centre in a big, white box. My father opened it and inside was a skinny tabby kitten who met my gaze with treacle eyes and started to purr huskily as soon as I scooped her up. I named her Lola because she's a beautiful but wild little waif.

Although I grew up with loveable dogs, I stayed sceptical about domestic animals and I thought pets were a poor substitute for people. Now, to my surprise, my bond with this cat is as close as a human friendship.



Healthy bond: Emily Wilcox and Lola

According to my Mum, Lola's arrival was destiny because the cat and I understand each other so well. My father is recovering from major heart surgery and I hope that he, too, will benefit from kitten therapy. He is Lola's sugar daddy — she gets her way by being cute and affectionate. In contrast, Mum is convinced that the kitten hates her and since Lola's arrival, when she drew blood, remains aloof. Nevertheless, Mum looks on triumphantly as Lola and I grow stronger.

I am a control freak about sticking to my management programme because it is my only guarantee of recovery. Only Lola dares to disturb my rest, and she does not care when I am too tired to play or clean out her litter tray. My health is not the issue: if Lola wants to play, we play.

So I crawl round the sitting room letting Lola stalk me and pounce like a small cheetah on the Serengeti. Her toys are only interesting if she has to sneak up and steal them from me. I take her exploring around the house, trying to keep up when she sprints ahead, then searching for her when she vanishes. Her movements are deft and lithe: when I watch her, it is obvious that a healthy body is a subtle piece of engineering. I am waiting for my own body to heal itself so that I can learn to move as effortlessly as Lola. I am, though, so distracted by looking after her that I bustle around the house as freely as a healthy girl. I forget to measure and limit my walking. Playing with Lola stimulates my dexterity and co-ordination. My friends have also noticed how much I giggle these days.

When I need to nap, Lola clambers over me until she is comfortable, yawns, then purrs noisily. Her contentment is irresistible. Lola's small, soft body is unexpectedly heavy and soothing. I like the feel of her fur on my skin. I still resent having to rest but with her company the time passes more quickly.

While I have been ill, I have soaked up love and attention from my family. Now, I have the chance to care for something more fragile than myself. This takes me a step closer to regaining independence.

I know that owning a kitten is not a cure for chronic fatigue syndrome: recovery takes time and effort. However, happiness makes the struggle much easier and, day by day, I can sense the illness receding. If I have stuck to a familiar management programme out of habit and fear of the unknown, Lola has brought spontaneity into my life. By the time she is old enough to prowl alone outside, I hope to be a strong young woman, able to do a bit of prowling myself.

EMILY WILCOX

Identifying the psychopath

MEDICINE CHEST
DR THOMAS STUTTAFORD

Many of the doctors who watched Edward Stourton's account on TV of Sean Sellers's remorseless killing, first of a checkout man in a supermarket, and later his own mother and stepfather, will have little doubt that his behaviour indicated an antisocial personality disorder, a behavioural pattern that used to be termed psychopathic.

Sellers planned the murders meticulously, he showed no regrets afterwards, and in the six months between the two incidents, partied and enjoyed himself. The grim fact was that Sellers was only 16.

Although psychopathy is not diagnosed until a patient is 18, it is usual for anyone with an antisocial personality disorder to show marked signs of aberrant behaviour before they are 15 and to have usually displayed such troubles as truancy, cruelty to animals, use of weapons in fights, sexual assault and lying and stealing. Such people are emotionally blunted: they defy authority and have a total lack of sensitivity.

Thirteen years after being found guilty of murder, and spending nearly half his life fighting appeals and running a Christian mission from his death cell, Sellers was executed by two injections, after he had been anaesthetised with a shot of sodium thiopental.

Medical and legal interest in the case was heightened by the final appeal of Sellers's lawyers, which was based on new psychiatric evidence purporting to show that he suffered from a Jekyll and Hyde personality, sometimes previously known as "multiple personality disorder", now described as "dissociative identity disorder". It is a reasonable assumption that this now tenuous diagnosis is likely to be heard increasingly in courts.

The 1992 16th edition of *Merck's Manual*, the bestselling American medical textbook, devotes six lines to multiple personality disorders, whereas the 17th edition, launched in London this month, has five columns on the condition.

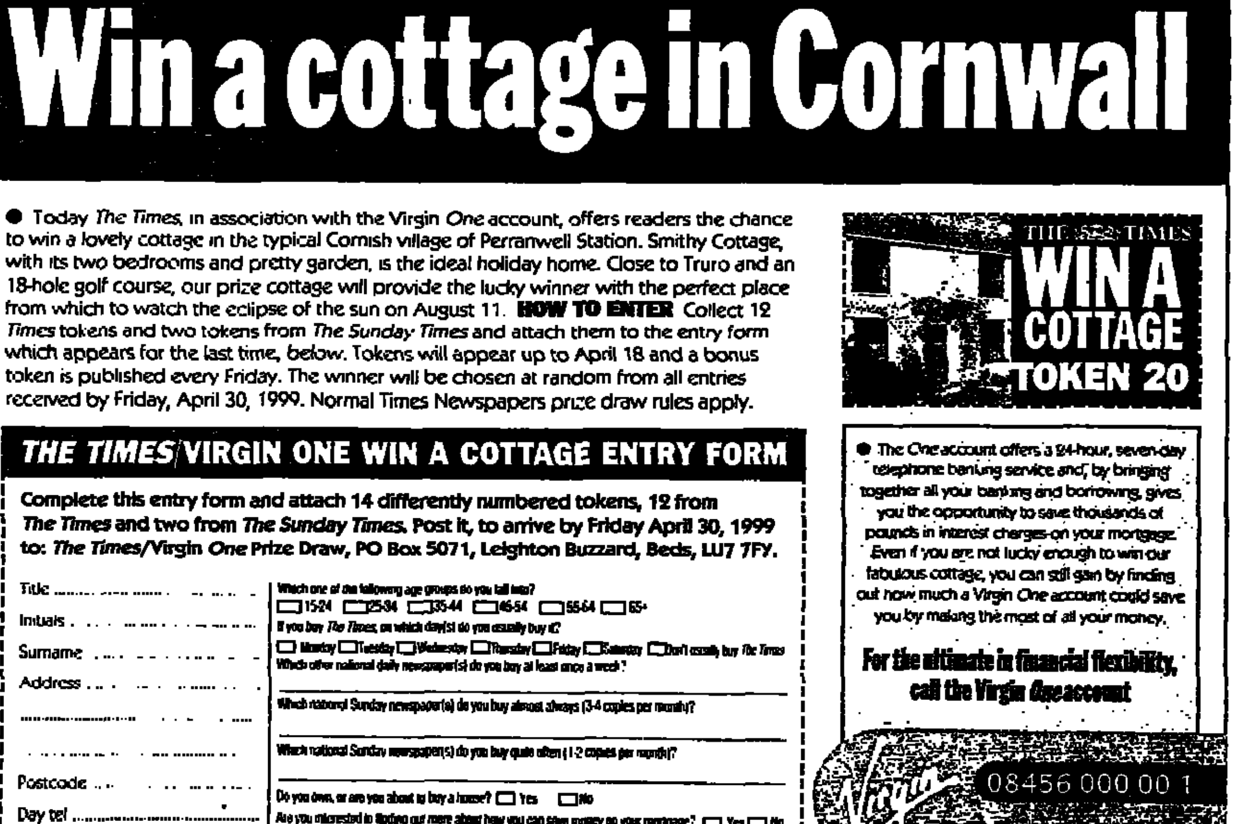
Dissociative identity disorder is defined as a condition in which two or more identities, or personalities, at different times take over a person's behaviour. To describe Jekyll and Hyde's divergent personality as schizophrenia is a common solecism. Psychiatrists who frequently diagnose dissociative identity disorder say that what is known by one person's personality may not be known by their other identity. These different personalities may interact in varying ways and the whole mishmash of personality is not only confusing for the patient and their relations, but also to lawyers as they try to sort out which of the accused personalities did what.

Psychiatrists who are firm believers in the new diagnostic criteria suggest that 3 to 4 per cent of all psychiatric inpatients display symptoms of the disease. The cynics hold that the symptoms professed by the patient are the result of a combination of an over-enthusiastic physician treating a suggestible patient. It is interesting that patients alleged to have the disorder are known to be easily hypnotised.

The protagonists of the diagnosis claim that the maturation process in a child which gives them a sense of identity can be stunted by lack of compassion, abuse and absence of understanding in childhood. In a vulnerable child, they claim, this deprivation may induce an identity crisis. The symptoms of associative identity disorder are apparently protean. The condition is said to be associated with a high incidence of self-harm and suicide; it can mimic most of the personality disorders, including antisocial personality disorder; it may be confused with schizophrenia, mania, depression (nearly all the alleged patients are depressed). Patients may hear voices, but whether this is a typical delusion or, as they maintain, their personalities talking to one another, is uncertain. Most also suffer the classic symptoms of amnesia, depersonalisation and derealisation.

When he was interviewed, Sellers's behaviour was typical of the psychopath — contrition was not in his vocabulary. He was egocentric, manipulative, plausible, charming, verbally skilful and overdid eye contact, like many of the more dangerous criminals I met in my spell as a part-time police surgeon. Little wonder that Stourton found him clever, charismatic and dangerous.

AN EXCLUSIVE PRIZE DRAW THE TIMES



Win a cottage in Cornwall

● Today *The Times*, in association with the Virgin *One* account, offers readers the chance to win a lovely cottage in the typical Cornish village of Perranwell Station. Smithy Cottage, with its two bedrooms and pretty garden, is the ideal holiday home. Close to Truro and an 18-hole golf course, our prize cottage will provide the lucky winner with the perfect place from which to watch the eclipse of the sun on August 11. **HOW TO ENTER** Collect 12 *Times* tokens and two tokens from *The Sunday Times* and attach them to the entry form which appears for the last time, below. Tokens will appear up to April 18 and a bonus token is published every Friday. The winner will be chosen at random from all entries received by Friday, April 30, 1999. Normal Times Newspapers prize draw rules apply.

***THE TIMES*/VIRGIN ONE WIN A COTTAGE ENTRY FORM**

Complete this entry form and attach 14 differently numbered tokens, 12 from *The Times* and two from *The Sunday Times*. Post it, to arrive by Friday April 30, 1999 to: *The Times/Virgin One* Prize Draw, PO Box 5071, Leighton Buzzard, Beds, LU7 7FY.

Title ....
Initials ....
Surname ....
Address ....
Postcode ....
Day tel ....

Which one of the following age groups do you fall into? ☐ 15-24 ☐ 25-34 ☐ 35-44 ☐ 45-54 ☐ 55-64 ☐ 65+
If you buy *The Times*, on which day(s) do you usually buy it? ☐ Monday ☐ Tuesday ☐ Wednesday ☐ Thursday ☐ Friday ☐ Saturday ☐ Don't usually buy *The Times*
Which other national daily newspaper(s) do you buy at least once a week?
Which national Sunday newspaper(s) do you buy almost always (3-4 copies per month)?
Which national Sunday newspaper(s) do you buy quite often (1-2 copies per month)?
Do you own, or are you about to buy a house? ☐ Yes ☐ No
Are you interested in finding out more about how you can save money on your mortgage? ☐ Yes ☐ No
Please tick if you would prefer not to receive information and offers from organisations carefully selected by *The Times* ☐ Virgin Direct ☐

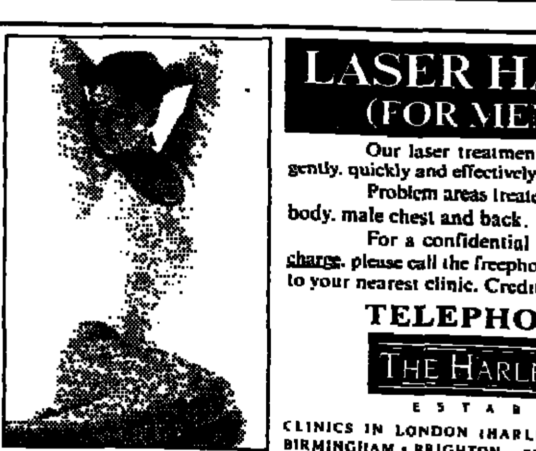
THE TIMES WIN A COTTAGE TOKEN 20

● The *One* account offers a 24-hour, seven-day telephone banking service and, by bringing together all your banking and borrowing, gives you the opportunity to save thousands of pounds in interest charges on your mortgage. Even if you are not lucky enough to win our fabulous cottage, you can still gain by finding out how much a Virgin *One* account could save you by making the most of all your money.

For the ultimate in financial flexibility, call the Virgin *One* account

Virgin one account 08456 000 00 1

CHANGING TIMES



LASER HAIR REMOVAL (FOR MEN AND WOMEN)

Our laser treatment removes unwanted body and facial hair gently, quickly and effectively, with long lasting results.

Problem areas treated include face, under-arms, bikini line, legs, body, male chest and back.

For a confidential consultation with a senior nurse, without charge, please call the freephone number below to get instantly connected to your nearest clinic. Credit facilities are available.

TELEPHONE: 0800 917 9000

THE HARLEY MEDICAL GROUP

ESTABLISHED 1983

CLINICS IN LONDON (HARLEY STREET, THE CITY AND WIMBLEDON) BIRMINGHAM • BRIGHTON • BRISTOL • LEEDS • MANCHESTER • NEWCASTLE

A night of food, sex and egos

Once a year Europe's top chefs celebrate their Michelin awards. **Grace Bradberry** meets the chefs with stars in their eyes

SIMON BROOK-WEBB









Starring roles: Main picture: Giorgio Locatelli. Above: Michael Caines (left) and Germain Schwab, who both have two stars. Left: the Michelin award-winners take a bow. Below: Raymond Blanc (top centre) pats Giorgio Locatelli on the head. Richard Corrigan on his left. Bottom left to right: Paul Merrett, Tessa Bramley and Max Renzland



It's *11.30 on Sunday* night at the Royal Naval College, Greenwich, and Giorgio Locatelli, the chef of Zafferano, has Raymond Blanc, the proprietor of Le Manoir aux Quat' Saisons, caught in a bear-hug. "My glasses!" says Blanc, extricating himself.

Behind them a young French chef twirls his wife, clad in spangly disco pants, between the tables. "Don't worry," the wife of one chef had reassured me when I remarked that the early evening atmosphere seemed subdued. "Come midnight, they'll be standing on tables and taking their clothes off." It didn't get quite that far but there was something touchingly gauche about the party spirit when the evening got into its stride. Top chefs don't get out much — and you could tell.

The event which sparked the exuberance is the Champagne Mumm *Gala des étoiles de la gastronomie*, the annual dinner in honour of Michelin-star chefs. If Locatelli was ebullient, then no wonder: he had just accepted his first Michelin star, an award he never expected because he once threw out the guide's inspectors.

"It was four years ago," he recalls, smiling ruefully. "I'd had a Red M — now called a Bib Gourmand — for value-for-money, but they took it away because I put my £25 menu up to £25.50. I'm in Belgravia. I pay £85,000 a year rent. They should have taken that into account." When two men introduced themselves as Michelin inspectors, Locatelli flipped. "I said, 'your way of *judging things is not mine!*'"

He is not the only English chef to have had doubts about the mysterious ruminations of the Michelin Men. Some (particularly those without stars) claim that the guide is outmoded, with too heavy a bias towards complex French cooking and too little appreciation of the kind of ethnic and fusion food that dominates the British restaurant scene. Ultimately, however, everyone wants at least one Michelin star, and some won't be happy unless they have three.

This year no British chef joined the three-star elite. Raymond Blanc stayed at two stars, as did Gordon Ramsay; La Tante Claire lost its third star, while the Waterside Inn at Bray-on-Thames, Chez Nico at Ninety Park Lane, and The Oak Room Marco Pierre White, retained theirs. The *only new three-star chef was a* Frenchman, Michel Bras, based in Laguiole.

Cooking *for Michelin stars* can become an obsession. Inspectors can pay any number of visits, but will often announce themselves only on one occasion in order to inspect the kitchen. Consistent excellence is required and a single "off-night" can cost a star. Though the award is aimed at consumers, the judges are in no way ordinary punters. Full-time employees of Michelin, they all have an HND or degree in hotel management, at least six years' experience in the industry, and a strong technical understanding of the *craft of cooking*.

> A single 'off night' can mean the loss of a star

Locatelli, however, doubts that he would have been recognised a few years back. "I didn't do foie gras. I do white truffles when it's the season. We *never* served canapés. Those used to be the requirements."

Despite the Knightsbridge location, Locatelli does not believe in such elitism. "Food is a leveller," he says. "There are three things that everyone must do: food is one, sex is another — if you want to have children — and defecation is the third. Those things make us all the same."

Which brings us to the subject of toilet paper. For some time now disaffected chefs have muttered that Michelin pays too much attention to extraneous details such as table*cloths and the number of loos*. "All that *stuff* about ten-ply toilet roll is *crap*," Gordon Ramsay assured me last week. "It's all about the food."

Ramsay was the Banquo's Ghost of Sunday night's dinner. Since his riveting performance in a fly-on-the-wall documentary — Ramsay made Captain Bligh look a benevolent taskmaster — he has made himself scarce. It's a shame be*cause he would have appreciat*ed the "woodland spirit" stilt-walkers who formed the entertainment. As viewers of the Channel 4 documentary will know, Ramsay blew a gasket when stilt-walkers dressed as insects held up a banquet that he was preparing at Ver*sailles. "We've got to wait for* the cockroach!" he blasted.

Ramsay makes no secret that he would like a third star — "As a footballer I wanted to play at Wembley Stadium, as a chef I want that third star." But even he points out that cooking for stars is a dangerous game. "It's 24 hours of glory every year and after that it's back to brass tacks," he says.

Among the 13 chefs collect*ing their first stars* was Paul Merrett, the head chef at Interlude, on Charlotte Street — until it closed in October. The entire staff was laid off overnight when the owner decided to sell up. A quiet 30-year-old in a loud waistcoat, Merrett, and his sous-chef Anton Manga*naro, are now working to*wards a new restaurant, Site, near Leicester Square. "We didn't close because we were cooking to Michelin standards," Merrett points out. In fact, he says, they were largely cooking "for our own egos — we would send back anything that wasn't perfect".

Germain Schwab, the owner and head chef at Winteringham Fields in North Lincoln*shire, said that his second star* had already made a difference. "We're more of a destination now," says Schwab. Situated near Scunthorpe, Winteringham Fields depends on people agreeing that the restaurant is "worth a detour".

Robert Clayton, the chef of *Bath Priory, a new one-star* winner, is from this area himself. "People in Cleethorpes [his home town] will buy a BMW but they won't spend money at a restaurant," he says. In general, however, he believes the British attitude towards food and the quality of our restaurants is improving.

"I'm sure we could have as many people up there as the French," he says, gesturing at *the stage, where 33 French* chefs have just collected their one-star awards, and another nine have gained two stars. By contrast, the British gained 13 one-star awards, and another two chefs were recognised with two stars.

The second two-star winner *is Michael Caines, head chef* of Gidleigh Park, Chagford. Caines, who grew up in Exeter, and is still only 30. His achievement is more remarkable when you consider that he has a prosthetic right arm after a car accident. Only one of the British winners was a woman: Tessa Bramley of The Old Vicarage, near Sheffield, a former housewife who is self-taught.

Also self-taught is Raymond Blanc, of Le Manoir aux Quat' Saisons, near Oxford. Despite missing out on a third star, he believes the inspection process is fair — "I was inspected eight times, and they said six times the food was three star and twice it wasn't." He has now in*vested £7 million on restructur*ing so that the private dining room and the restaurant have separate kitchens.

Strictly speaking, the grandeur of an establishment doesn't matter to the inspectors. "Michelin says it's all about the food," says Blanc. "I doubt it very strongly. They gave me one star when I was 27 and running a tiny little place with a corrugated iron *roof over the kitchen." But for* three stars he believes something more is required: "Time shouldn't exist."

Nor should bullying. Blanc was, he says, horrified by Ramsay's behaviour in the kitchen. "When you have a creative power within yourself which *you then give to a dish, it's a* very painful thing to see one of your staff unintentionally murder that dish. But you have to put your fist in your pocket. I ask to see staff later, so I have time to reflect."

Who knows what the scene was like in the kitchens on Sunday as James Robins of Mustard Catering attempted to please Europe's top chefs. "Hmm," said one chef, tasting *the herb and sole mousseline* that acompanied the red mullet. "The flavour is too strong for the fish." Still, Robins could take comfort in one thing — there were no Michelin inspectors present. They cannot afford to be recognised.

I've seen the future and it works . . . differently

Temp agencies look set to become the only permanent employers for many people, says **Jon Ashworth**

Visitors to the Millennium Dome will be *invited to explore an* area that will focus on how our working lives are likely to *change. On entering*, they will see the depressing spectacle of overcrowded commuter trains and traffic jams, while a huge clock loudly ticks away the working hours, Pink Floyd-style. Next comes an area of transition, in which *shredded*-paper orders and clocking-in cards will be tipped into giant *plastic sacks — symbolically* turfing out the old ways. The workers of the future, so it goes, will have greater control over every aspect of their lives.

The Work Zone is sponsored by Manpower, the recruitment company which is seen by some as a template for future working practices. Manpower and others like it will take on the trappings of a permanent employer, providing benefits, such as healthcare, pensions and holiday pay for its staff. Its temps will rotate from job to job, but look to Manpower as their permanent home, enjoying the same rights as employees. The "death of the office" has been exaggerated. By now we should all be telecommuting from home, communicating *by e-mail, telephone and* videophone. Many people do work from home, but the old ways are proving resistant.

Instead, the change is coming in the way that people are employed. Redundancies have claimed huge swaths of middle managers and back-office staff, forcing them to adapt to a changing market. Each new advance in technology means fewer jobs. Manag*ers have reinvented them*selves as consultants, while secretaries and clerical work*ers have looked to companies* such as Manpower.

Richard Pearson, director *of the Institute* for Employment Studies, an independent research institute, says: "A lot of people are choosing not to have a traditional job. They work part-time, weekends and evenings to suit their lifestyle. If you had read the futu*rology articles* of the past decade, we should all now be working from home. But we are not. We need to meet people. There willbe a big core of people working traditionally in 10 to 20 years' time."

Amin Rajan, chief executive of the Centre for Research in Employment and Technology *in Europe, an independent* "think-tank", believes that the office will survive because hu*man beings need social* contact. He thinks that banks, accountants and law firms will remain much as they are because they need to be close to clients. Other companies may adopt a "club" approach, in which offices will become staging posts. A manager due in London for a meeting, for instance, would "rent" a desk for the day.

British Airways adopted such a model for its new head office at Waterside, near Heathrow. Hot-desking frees up space, while remote working keeps employees in touch via laptop computer and e-mail. Andersen Consulting uses a similar system at its offices in Paris. This is the closest that Professor Rajan thinks we will get to telecommuting, with staff writing up reports at home or while travelling. A further variant *on the workplace will come as* banks and others outsource functions such as cheque-processing and invoice-issuing, which require large numbers of people. It is far cheaper to locate such operations in rural areas where labour is cheap and office rents are low.

A good example is the telephone call centres that have mushroomed in the UK in recent years. Many of them are staffed entirely by contracted-in management and employees. Manpower, for one, has about 11,000 people working in UK call centres each day.

Roger Steare, a City recruitment consultant, thinks that the work*place of the future will be char*acterised by three groups: senior management, a middle tier of freelance consultants or "hired guns", and a pool of staff on short-term contracts handling back-office and secretarial functions.

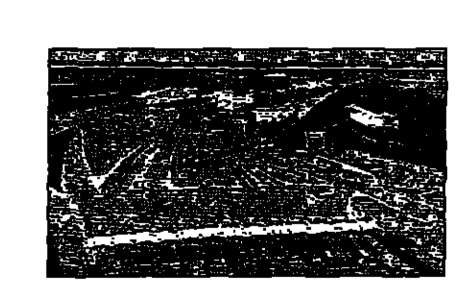
Steare says: "I don't see that the workplace will necessarily look very different, but it will feel different because people will have more control over their working lives. My feeling is that quality of life will become more important."

That is the impression that awaits visitors to the Dome. Those who run the gauntlet of ticking clocks and shredded paper will find themselves in a room with six huge work tables designed to be "played" by up to 14 people at a time. They can play or watch others and learn about the skills most valued by employers. And if this sounds like some ghastly school lesson, that's because it probably is.

Over 50 and renewing your motor insurance?
Try Saga for high cover, low cost motor insurance
FREE 0800 484 184 quoting reference TM4901
Our lines are open 8.30am to 7pm weekdays, and 9am to 1pm Saturdays.
Telephone calls may be monitored/recorded for staff training purposes.
Saga Services would like to send you information on other Saga products and services and may pass on your details to other Saga companies for this purpose.
SAGA







Attention all shoppers, especially in areas a short hop from Dover.

Here is the shopping forecast from the English Channel.

Dover to Calais - crossings, frequent.

Shopping prices falling steadily.

Wines plentiful from all regions with bargains, imminent.

Bries moderate. Other cheeses also excellent.

Hotel accommodation - good. Restaurants - fine.

There'll be a few passengers unwinding as the day goes on and we'll see more ferries along shortly.

What are you waiting for? With around 140 crossings a day,

Calais
begins with sea

DOVER/CALAIS. OVER 100 CROSSINGS EVERYDAY.
P&O STENA LINE, SEAFRANCE & HOVERSPEED.

Don't blame us, we're all for the Union

Labour is singing some very traditional songs in this election

The nation with the highest rate of heart disease in Europe may not seem the natural home of self-discipline. But Scotland is exhibiting a curious, and mature, restraint at the moment. The Scots seem to want to have their cake, and not eat it.

When I was growing up in Scotland during the Eighties, it seemed as though the entire nation was adolescent. Every problem, from the closure of shipyards to the failures of the national football team, was someone else's fault. Usually Margaret Thatcher's. And just as every adolescent problem could be solved only by getting out from under mum's skirts, so Scotland could be happy only if she had a parliament.

Now, however, that we are to have our own parliament, we seem curiously shy of making the most of it. The parents have left us with the key, our mates are at the door with the six-packs of McEwan's Export, but we're content to sit in our bedroom waiting patiently for the paternal Granada to return. They may have left the Macallan on the sideboard but, thank you very much, I'll stick to the Irn Bru.

The campaign for the new Scottish parliament is, formally, a week old. It is the culmination of a struggle which is, like me, a tad over 30 years old. During those 30 years Scotland has, allegedly, grown ever more restless in the Union. And yet recently the best tunes have all been Unionist. They might have been singing *Flower of Scotland* in the Stade de France on Saturday but *Rule, Britannia* has secured the applause on the hustings. A cover version, certainly, with Gordon Brown incorporating the odd riff from *Hey, Big Spender!*, but the old tune is unmistakable underneath.

Since the campaign's formal beginning, the case, and the advocates, for greater autonomy have proved unconvincing, while the party most prominent in the Union's defence has flourished. This election was supposed to be a showcase for the Scottish National Party's independence drive. But the SNP seems to have adopted the same policy as the Ancient Egyptians towards that which it values most — burial. In its list of ten priorities its historic goal of independence came tenth, below abolishing the toll for the Skye Bridge.

Call me romantic, but I don't think George Washington would have got very far if he'd made crossing the Delaware toll-free a higher priority than American independence in his 1776 campaign.

The downgrading of independence reflects a fundamental weakness. The nationalists fear that support for independence is not yet sufficient to propel them into power. And so, in order to broaden their appeal, the SNP has tried to be more socialist than nationalist. Alex Salmond's denunciation of the Nato bombing campaign and advocacy of higher income tax in Scotland is an attempt to accentuate the red in the Lion Rampant.

But the Scots are evidently unimpressed. After the SNP explained what goodies an extra penny on income tax might bring, the polls showed it trailing well behind low-tax Labour. Not only do Scots not want independence, it appears, they scarcely want their parliament to show any independence. The cake stays pristine, just as Tony baked it.

There is, of course, a constituency for higher public expenditure. But it expects Westminster to provide, just as Liverpool and Newcastle do. The Labour Party launched its manifesto for the Scottish parliament yesterday. It was an extravagant declaration of, well, dependence. On the Treasury. There would be four computers for every classroom, eight new hospitals, and an NHS hotline. All paid for by Westminster. And none of it requiring a Scottish parliament to deliver.

Labour's campaign is being driven by two men who are not even standing for the parliament. The strategy is directed by Gordon Brown, and the tactics decided by his protégé, the Westminster MP Douglas Alexander. Mr Alexander entered the Commons in the full knowledge that a Scottish parliament would be along in a tick, but he nevertheless took the high road south. His judgment that Westminster is the parliament Scots really respect is borne out by the popularity of the campaign he is currently running.

Michael Gove

As part of it, Mr Brown will deliver his major ideological speech of the election this Thursday. At the *London* School of Economics. Its title? New *Britain*. Having spent his entire adult political career campaigning for a Scottish parliament, he is now, we are informed, trying "to make Britishness fashionable". Has anyone told Margaret Thatcher? Has anyone told Gerry Adams?

Indeed, has anyone told John Smith's heirs? The late Labour Party leader famously described his failed Devolution Act as "unfinished business". But now that the legislation has been passed, we're back to business as usual.

With business in the driving seat. Last Thursday the Labour Party was delighted to flourish an advertisement, paid for by industry, which denounced SNP tax plans. The new heroes of the people's party included the chairman of Rangers Football Club, the last institution outside the British Legion where working-class men gather to sing *Land of Hope and Glory*, and the entrepreneur Ivor Tiefenbrun. When asked what the Scottish parliament could do to help business, Mr Tiefenbrun once commented, "mass suicide on the first day". It seems as though Mr Tiefenbrun may have got his wish early. The Labour Party appears to have put its Scottish parliamentarians to sleep even before they get to Holyrood. Which leaves this Unionist asking one question. If all, it appears, Scotland ever wanted was to be run by Labour politicians from Westminster, then why did we ever embark on creating a seraglio in Edinburgh for 129 eunuchs?

michael.gove@the-times.co.uk



An inspector falls

It is time for Blunkett to stop sneering at concerns about Chris Woodhead

For too many nights the dog has refrained from barking. This curious incident, as Sherlock would put it, has gone on long enough, and it is time to tell the strange tale of the Chief Inspector of Schools, his ex-wife, and the sixth-former. If the world is not yet prepared, tough. The business has been muted for too long and — with David Blunkett's latest sneer about "vile" allegations, there is getting to be something very dislikeable about it. Haul it out into the open air, I say. Shake it out, let's have a proper look at it.

The matter is, of course, already public; but so faint is the bark of the media dog that you may have missed it. Here, in brief, are the least disputed facts. It begins with a piece of proposed law: a hasty sop to those uneasy about the lowering of the age of homosexual consent. The Government is planning to make imprisonable offences of all sexual affairs between teachers and pupils, even 18-year-olds. Such affairs are already sacking offences in most schools. In the light of this, in January Chief Inspector Chris Woodhead was asked a conference question to which he rashly (but honestly) replied that sometimes such affairs could turn out to be "educative and experiential".

It was one of the rare moments when this standard-bearer of the New Strictness revealed his true colours as a child of '68. Back then, we all sang Bob Dylan songs and believed like mad that your romantic misjudgments were what made you, like, *grow*. Perhaps, in failing to utter a standard-issue blast of moral indignation, Mr Woodhead was chivalrously trying not to betray the memory of what was, in the end, his long partnership with a former pupil called Amanda Johnston, whom he first met as a sixth-former at Gordano School, near Bristol, in the 1970s (note that neutral word "met" — it is important).

But his words caught his former wife on the raw. In a long article for a Sunday paper, Mrs Cathy Woodhead said that despite his insistence that the affair began years later, it was to her sure knowledge well under way while the girl was in the sixth form and she, the teacher's wife, had a young baby. "While he was away being educative and experiential," observes Cathy Woodhead in that lethally wifely way pioneered by Mrs Margaret Cook, "I was at home with a 15-month-old baby." She further says that he even suggested that his girlfriend move in with them to help with the baby (look, kids, this was 1975. Believe me, the idea would sound less crazy if you, too, had been young in the age of the flared brocade trouser and sheepskin waistcoat).

Mr Woodhead sticks to his own story — which he and Miss Johnston have both legally sworn to — that the affair began later. But a group of old colleagues have told various newspapers that Mrs Woodhead's story matches their own recollections. So who is telling the truth? In the weeks since the damning article was published, nothing has happened: nothing official, at least, although the teachers' unions have tried to make a stink and a largely ignored motion was tabled in the Commons. The DfEE is said to be "looking" at documents sent in by Mrs Woodhead, and *The Observer* reported yesterday that a handwritten note in the divorce papers has her husband admitting adultery with a lady whose name he would not disclose "for professional reasons".

Libby Purves

However, the Education Secretary continues to say that the allegations — implicitly including Mrs Woodhead's — are "vile". Mr Blunkett sneers: "This seems to be degenerating into a war of an ex-wife getting revenge. It is getting nastier and nastier and less relevant to anything to do with his employment in government. None of it has proved that he lied and none of it has affected his current job. What happened in the 1970s is his own business."

Ah, but it isn't, Mr Blunkett. It was his wife's business, too; and while nobody in their senses would ever advise a woman to reclaim her history in public after so long, *she* was within her rights to do so. And the Government is *not* within its rights to dismiss her as a nasty liar. Her motive need not be revenge nor (as I fear some pro-Woodhead spinners are hinting) some pathetic menopausal crisis. It could just as well be a sense of monstrous injustice: of fury at being cavalierly dismissed as a witness to a painful, well-remembered crisis in her own life. She is asking for an investigation: in her place, frankly, I would not stir up trouble this late in the day, but if she wants to then it is her right to do so. Truth is truth.

And establishing the truth does matter to the Chief Inspector's professional credibility, especially when sworn statements are being contradicted. Any teacher knows that once the kids start giggling about Sir's private life, respect flies out of the classroom window.

Mr Woodhead may not speak out on morals as a rule (this is part of his defence) but he is a national Sir, a representative of all that is orderly and professional in education. He might easily have regained respect after an ill-advised ancient affair, but respect gets harder to maintain when he is accused of rewriting history to suit himself, without regard for the other players. I rather hope he is not guilty: I like the man, and he works hard, and if his critics damn him as a new Labour courtier, so what? It appears to be the only way to hold public offices down these days. But now the question has been raised, it must be answered.

Yet the Government is defensive and the media muted. Granted, the allegations came at a time when the press was lying gorged and exhausted after hounding out Geoffrey Robinson, Peter Mandelson and Glenn Hoddle in quick succession. Bloodlust was slaked. But there is something else at work, too: a sense that the Government will stand by Woodhead in the face of any evidence short of mass-murder, and that it is obscurely unsafe for editors and broadcasters to make a noise.

Some, in government and media alike, excuse this by saying we should not encourage bitter and unbalanced vindictiveness. That is not fair to Mrs Woodhead, who is a distinguished mountaineer and not mad at all. Others say that it is part of a conspiracy by teachers to oust Mr Woodhead because he says such unkind things about them and sends in Ofsted teams to upset people. One close Government apologist said firmly to me, when I was marvelling at the lack of fallout after the ex-wife's article and wondering whether to write this: "Look, we can't afford to let something like this bring down Woodhead. He's the only hope for education in this country."

So I brooded about that for a while, and decided that it was even sicker than the original allegations. One of the marks of a healthy system — educational, governmental, administrative — is that nobody is indispensable, even the boss. If we have really got to a situation where nobody speaks for Ofsted except Chris Woodhead, where nobody's views matter but his and nobody but him can improve school standards — why, we are in a bad way, and something really must be done.

It is easy enough to see why new Labour, anxious to reassure us about its commitment to education, decided to keep Chris Woodhead as a talisman of good faith. But that totemic power should be fading. We know that David Blunkett has become as fussy and prescriptive a martinet as any Tory education reformer, and that the flow of literacy-hour packs and guides to chanting times-tables will not cease in the foreseeable future, with or without Chris Woodhead.

So Mr Blunkett should be even-handed and open, stop flailing his fists in passionate defence of the Chief Inspector, and call in evidence rather than just reluctantly flicking through whatever the irate former wife sends in. He owes it to teachers, parents and children to establish the truth.

After all, whatever it is, he has the power to wipe the slate for Mr Woodhead if he wants to.

comment@the-times.co.uk

'Life is messier than fiction. We should beware of policy based on good guys beating bigger bad guys in Kosovo and living happily ever after'

Vanora Bennett

Nato might not know what to do after Kosovo airstrikes, but Frederick Forsyth has the answer. Instead of ground troops, the author wants the West to "release the dogs of war" and arm the Kosovo Liberation Army. His pleading in weekend papers follows weeks of KLA appeals for Nato weapons. The arrangement would benefit both sides, the argument goes. Nato would boost the KLA by implicitly recognising its independence claims, while fighters who know the terrain could act as proxy Nato "ground troops".

Given Nato's queasiness a few weeks ago at the possibility of being seen as the KLA's "airforce" — and the fact that a few months ago the West dismissed the KLA as terrorists — this idea has won a surprising amount of attention. Supporters include Zbigniew Brzezinski, Jimmy Carter's one-time National Security Adviser. Two US senators have drafted legislation which, if passed, would allow America to spend $25 million on the rebels. Their sympathy shows how the suffering of Kosovan civilians has coloured the West's perception in recent weeks. It also shows Nato's desperation — faced with the inability of Kosovans to protect themselves on the ground and Nato's inability to protect them from the skies. It would appear to hit the Serbs without risking Nato lives.

Forsyth's solution is as well-plotted as a thriller. But life is messier than fiction. We should beware of policy based on good guys beating bigger bad guys and living happily ever after.

Arming the KLA on the basis that an enemy's enemy is a friend would be folly. Little is known about the KLA, but much is suspected. International police link its members with organised crime, especially heroin trafficking and gun-running. In 1997, when neighbouring Albania disintegrated, so many guns were stolen from army depots that the black market price dropped to £10 a Kalashnikov. The KLA has been stocking up.

American officials suggest that the KLA has ties to Islamic groups. If so, arming it might encourage fundamentalists from Iran, Iraq, or Afghanistan to join the fight, possibly radicalising Muslim Albanians. Providing weapons would give Russia, already sympathetic to Belgrade, an excuse to arm the Serbs in Orthodox Christian retaliation.

There are longer-term risks in funding guerrillas, as America's painful memories of Afghanistan prove. The Mujahidin were supported by Washington in the 1980s to counter the Soviet Army .But later they turned US weapons on each other. Since the sternly Islamic Taleban took over in 1996, Afghanistan has infuriated Washington by sheltering Osama bin Laden, a Saudi businessman allegedly behind the bombings of US embassies in Africa last year. America can do without any more proxy conflicts backfiring.

There is every reason to believe that the KLA, if armed by Nato and subsequently successful in battle, would also tear itself apart. It lacks a coherent ideology beyond opposition to Belgrade: it includes Maoists, Muslims and macho guerrillas. Its dramatic appearance last year, in a rebellion later smashed by Serbian forces, has overshadowed Kosovo's non-violent nationalists, whose veteran leader, Ibrahim Rugova, is now mocked by the KLA as a naive Gandhi. KLA bosses would be unlikely to promote Western-style democratic pluralism.

The KLA gained some respectability last month by agreeing to a three-year pause in its fight for independence. The brutal purging which followed has killed that deal, since no one could now expect it to live under Serbian suzerainty. But there has been no talk, yet, of what should be substituted. Since the most the West aimed for when first endorsing airstrikes was to make Kosovo a Nato-run protectorate, any move towards supporting independence, and redrawing frontiers, would need to be publicly discussed first.

The most practical reason not to arm the KLA stems not from what it is, but what it is not — militarily effective. Literary romantics such as Forsyth should bear in mind that the dogs of this war are ill-trained puppies. Although KLA ranks are swelling with desperate Kosovans bent on revenge for the destruction of their lives, the rag-tag army is not big. Before the latest horrors, it numbered only between 6,000 and 10,000 men. Their commitment is undoubted but they are too few, and too chaotic, to prevail.

Since the bombing began, their attempts to defend civilians and hold territory have mostly been defeated by Serbians. Boosting their effectiveness would take months of training. Arming them now is, as one Western military expert puts it, "a proposal that makes us feel good but has absolutely no effect on the situation on the ground". These are dogs best left muzzled.

vanora.bennett@the-times.co.uk

THE TIMES DIARY

Turf wars

SIR JOCELYN STEVENS wants to dig up Queen Victoria's most cherished garden. The chairman of English Heritage is about to announce that he plans to spend £1.5 million uprooting ancient landscapes at ten properties run by the body and replace them with contemporary designs.

Osborne House, Victoria's holiday home on the Isle of Wight, is believed to top the list, which includes Kent's Bayham Abbey and Worcester's Witley Court. "Good heavens," exclaimed Lord St John of Fawsley when I called him about the imminent announcement. "When one has established gardens of their period, the last thing one should do is dig them up."

But Stephen Bayley, the design guru, thought it an excellent idea: "It's Sir J's last hurrah before he leaves English Heritage. This should be about preserving the best of the past without freezing it at some fanciful historical moment."

SIR STANLEY MATTHEWS has signed a £200,000 deal to write his memoirs. With a little help from Les Scott, the next-door neighbour, the former England international (below) will recall historic moments from his career, such as playing in his first Football League match and being forced to salute Hitler in 1938. Matthews, who once earned £12 a week, will also be sharing his thoughts on today's far better remunerated players.



■ A PLOT is afoot to depose the Queen in Scotland. Labour and SNP candidates to the new assembly — republican almost to a man — are investigating how they can drop the oath of allegiance to Her Majesty after the elections.

While anti-monarchists at Westminster such as Tony Banks have to make do with crossing their fingers behind their back, prospective parliamentarians north of the border hope to circumvent the 1998 Scotland Act, which mandates the oath, by changing the assembly's standing orders.

Andrew Puddephatt, the constitutional reformer, has already offered to devise a new formulation of the affirmation which would exclude pledging fealty to the Queen. If republicans succeed in Scotland, how soon before they demand the same at Westminster?

EVEN in his own backyard, the Tories are deserting William Hague. The council in his Yorkshire constituency yesterday fell to the Liberal Democrats without a single vote cast. Richmond Tories lost power because they were unable to find enough candidates to stand in next month's local elections.

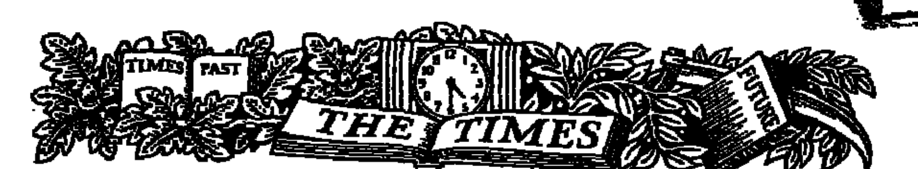


■ PETER MANDELSON may have left the Government, but his influence lives on. A minister has been taking the advice of Tony Blair's image consultant to its logical conclusion and begun visiting Madonna's plastic surgeon in Wimpole Street for Botox jabs.

Dr Jean-Louis Sebagh, who specialises in injecting the diluted form of botulism toxin into foreheads to defeat wrinkles by freezing facial muscles, declines to break patient confidentiality. Such discretion turns the spotlight on so many ministers. However, one feels John Prescott and George Robertson are well above suspicion.

TODAY'S thirtysomethings are so inadequate at relationships that they are signing up for lessons on how to attract a partner. Thirty singletons have enrolled for a course called Flirting for Fun *which begins this weekend. "Women can be very worried about giving out the wrong signals," says Joy Penzer, the organiser, "while men have to learn to cope with rejection."*

EDWARD WELSH



WAR DRUMS ON THE HILL

Congress has begun to confront the need for ground troops

Nato's claims that the air campaign is beginning to bite await their proof. But what may be more significant for the outcome of this war is the impact that Kosovo's agony has had on American voters — and, consequently, on Congress.

Before the Easter recess, Congress had little stomach for this war. The Senate gave only grudging support to Nato airstrikes, which were opposed by 38 out of 55 Republicans. In the House, most Republicans opposed deployment of US troops, even as a small part of the Nato peacekeeping force that would have policed the Rambouillet accord rejected by Slobodan Milosevic. But this week, after town hall meetings which, across the country, have been dominated by Kosovo, Congress has returned in a markedly different mood.

The question on Capitol Hill is no longer whether the US should be involved at all, but whether Nato can prevail in Kosovo with air power alone, as both President Clinton and Vice-President Al Gore — like Tony Blair and Robin Cook — continue to insist; and what to do if it cannot. For an influential bipartisan group of congressmen, the answer is that Mr Clinton should never, for political as well as military reasons, have emboldened Mr Milosevic by ruling out the use of ground forces, and that the President should admit this now, and rapidly start to mobilise Nato troops.

Led by Senator John McCain of Arizona, a Vietnam veteran and leading Republican contender in next year's presidential elections, the group includes heavyweights of both parties, including John W. Warner, the Republican chairman of the Senate Armed Forces Committee, and the prominent Democrat Senators, Joe Biden and Joseph Lieberman. Of the 13 senior congressmen who toured Nato headquarters and European bases last week with William Cohen, the Defence Secretary, 11 returned to Washington calling on Congress to authorise the Administration to take all "necessary action". They argue that now that the US is engaged, it must be seen to be ready to do whatever is needed to win.

There is still ambivalence in Congress, where debate ever since Vietnam has been clouded by concern about "exit strategies"; but the more haltingly the air campaign goes, the more ground forces appear the "least bad option". Opinion polls also reflect growing public support for a possible ground war. And all the presidential contenders have woken up, some to their great discomfort, to the fact that they will have to stake out their position on Kosovo, although only Mr Gore and Senator McCain have actually done so.

Caspar Weinberger, Defence Secretary under Ronald Reagan, speaks for much of the foreign policy establishment when he accuses Mr Clinton of "taking us into a war without any apparent intention to win" and without having "defined victory or established any real goals". There are sarcastic questions about why the Pentagon, which is supposed to be able to send the entire 101st Air Assault Division anywhere in the world within a fortnight, should be taking an eternity to deploy 24 Apache assault helicopters from Germany to Albania.

These combined pressures are beginning to tell. This week has seen a shift in Administration rhetoric; while Mr Clinton still ruled out ground troops yesterday, the word is that plans could change "very quickly" if need be. General Hugh Shelton, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, who has been privately sceptical about what Washington wags dub the doctrine of "immaculate coercion", has begun publicly to discuss what a ground war would entail.

The Clinton Administration is having trouble singing in harmony. Madeleine Albright caused consternation at yesterday's Nato foreign ministers' meeting when she hinted that a "realistic and flexible" outcome could be the partition of Kosovo, with Belgrade retaining some troops and special police in the province. She was promptly contradicted by her own State Department. President Clinton needs to add military expertise to his team. Above all, he needs to demonstrate that the only "exit strategy" on his mind is the one that produces a convincing Nato victory. Every Western politician hopes that this will not require ground combat; but none of them can credibly continue to rule that out.

A WEAKER TOMORROW

The continental way to corporate mergers without tears

From big banks to fashion to telephones, merger mania is marching through Europe. To British and American eyes the marriage plots of Paribas, Société Générale and Banque National de Paris might suggest improved shareholder value and a line of jobless managers to prove that the pain of rationalisation is real. The same effect might be anticipated from the sight of Bernard Arnault's LMVH sending Gucci up the catwalk into the arms of rival mogul François Pinault; or from Olivetti's sneak attack upon Telecom Italia. The £15.3 billion in bank borrowing Olivetti plans to use in its £40.5 billion raid makes this one of the biggest leveraged buyouts ever attempted anywhere. Junk bonds, white knights, poison pills, even the American corporate raiders Kohlberg Kravis Roberts are now on Europe's streets. Has continental business forsaken its protected ways and joined the real world?

In the first quarter of 1999 European mergers, acquisitions, and takeovers totalled £177 billion, more than double the figure for the same period of 1998. Some see this as a sign that the EU's single market is, at last, battering down the walls that its governments use to shelter business. Others point to the euro and its low interest rates as the spur for profit-hungry raids on inefficient European competitors.

But there may be less to this frenzy than meets the eye. The mergers of Banco Santander and Banco Central Hispano in Spain, the marriages in Italian banking, BNP's attempt to fuse Paribas, Société Générale, and itself into the world's biggest bank, herald a shakeout in European banking. But instead of efficiency, these mergers are defensive moves against globalization that are as misbegotten as yesterday's answers to *le défi Americain*.

There is a whiff of old Europe here. Under General de Gaulle in the 1960s, and François Mitterrand in the 1980s, the idea was to create giant European companies to match their American and Japanese rivals in scale, efficiency and innovation. That logic animates today's banking mergers, with the added ingredient that bosses are as keen as politicians to create "national" and "EU" champions. This belief is based on three dubious assumptions: that bigger means more competitive; that national solutions are preferable to European solutions, which are in turn preferable to international deals; and that governments are needed as corporate marriage-brokers.

As brokers, European governments bring dowries called regulation and protectionism. In Britain and America, after a takeover, owners can close businesses and sack workers. Europe's labour laws and mighty unions make that hard. Improved efficiency becomes impossible when employers unilaterally disarm. BNP's chairman, Michel Pebereau, promised that, in his takover effort, no worker would be sacked and no branch closed. Similar "no sack, no closure" pledges were made by bosses at UniCredito Italiano and Sanpaolo IMI during the takeovers that transformed the two into Italy's biggest banks.

France, Italy, and Spain sanctioned bank mergers supposedly to make their banks more competitive. Yet each cast votes of no-confidence in its banks by discouraging European competitors from seeking toeholds in their markets. Instead of making Europe's banks more competitive, today's takeovers are locking-in inefficiency. Here is a process that is not only foolhardy but dangerous. Today's mergers may succeed only in weakening Europe's banking system tomorrow.

KEEP ON TRUCKING

Lorry drivers harm their case by jamming Britain's roads

Britain's lorry drivers, protesting about increased vehicle excise duty and tax on diesel, brought many cities to a standstill yesterday. Their action, unlike their case, is unjustified. Instead of frustrating motorists, road hauliers should concentrate on persuading the Chancellor to review his damaging plans. Blocking roads is no match for a well-articulated argument.

Higher taxes on road haulage undermine the industry's competitiveness. Filling a 1,000-litre lorry tank will cost £644, compared with £340 in Belgium. Licences for the 38-tonne lorry, used by most fleets, will rise from £3,310 to £5,750 a year, over £5,000 more than a similar licence costs in France. The impact will be felt throughout industry as costs rise.

Blocking Britain's arteries has allowed ministers to marshal public support against the truckers, mouth green slogans and baffle the public with statistics. More must be done, ministers claim, to encourage rail freight. Truckers must pay for polluting the atmosphere and wearing out roads; a 40-tonne lorry does more damage than 10,000 cars. Furthermore, if Britain's comparatively low labour costs and corporation tax are taken into account, the Government estimates that the industry is one of the most competitive in Europe. Although ministers are right to condemn yesterday's chaos, these are weak ripostes.

Higher costs will not stimulate a dramatic shift of haulage to rail, given the gaps in the railway network. The larger hauliers may register their fleets abroad and fill their tanks before entering Britain. Smaller operators will be undercut by foreign companies, whose lorries have made almost 50 per cent more journeys in this country in the past two years. Foreign, not British, pantechnicons will continue to pollute and wear down the tarmac.

Ministers have admitted that they did not assess the impact of differences in the rate of duty within the European Union before these measures were introduced. They have established a "forum" to discuss the haulage industry's plight. Such a confession and conciliation strengthens the hauliers' argument. Lorry drivers should now pursue their case with vigour, not from their cabs but around the table.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Roles for UN and Nato in Balkans

From Major-General R. S. N. Mans

Sir, In your leading article, "The Easter tide" (April 3), you praise the United Nations Commissioner for Refugees for co-ordinating summits on the plight of the Kosovo refugees. But surely such summits would have been unnecessary if detailed UN plans had been in place to deal with such a crisis.

Few if any lessons have been learnt from past disasters. The slow response to the Kurdish crisis in the aftermath of the Gulf War was one such example of many.

In the military environment planners are occupied continually in preparing plans for a wide range of contingencies, however remote they may seem. In the case of Kosovo this was no surprise event. There were ample warning signs months ago.

If detailed plans for the relief of refugees had been at hand there would have been no need for "emergency summits". Relief could have been implemented with the minimum of delay, using both military aircraft and requisitioned civil assets.

It is ironic that in 1998 we celebrated the success of the Berlin Airlift and yet 50 years on, with the proliferation of larger and faster aircraft, we cannot mount such a swift response for Kosovo.

A lack of detailed and co-ordinated forward planning has always been the Achilles' heel of the UN administration and will continue to be so until more dynamic leadership is forthcoming in this vital area of its activities.

Yours sincerely,
ROWLEY MANS,
Ivy Bank Cottage,
Vinegar Hill, Milford-on-Sea,
Hampshire SO41 0RZ.
April 9.

From Professor Harry G. Gelber

Sir, However this war in the Balkans, misconceived in origin and bungled so far in execution, finally ends, a few of its longer-term consequences can already be sketched.

The indispensability of American strategic leadership of Europe has been underlined. Nato has changed its role from a defensive alliance to one willing to intervene, in principle anywhere and unconstrained by the United Nations Charter. In the process Germany has not only reasserted its traditional Balkan interests but shown a new willingness to use armed force.

The already precarious stability of the Balkans has been undermined. If Nato insists on making a desert and calling it peace (letter, April 8), the whole region will be further destabilised and at minimum become a running political, military and economic sore. The Islamic world will not be reassured.

All that coincides with an eastward expansion of this new Nato. Russia has been doubly alienated and its nationalist element greatly strengthened. Its governments, of whatever colour, will look to its defences, both military and financial, and will seek closer relations with a China which has made it very clear that its political and strategic interests do not coincide with those of the West.

It is the political map of the world, not only of Europe, that is being redrawn.

Yours sincerely,
HARRY GELBER,
Centre for International Studies,
The London School of Economics and Political Science,
Houghton Street, WC2A 2AE.
April 12.

From Dr F. H. Chowdhury

Sir, It is time Europe took charge of its own defence, instead of looking over its shoulder to guess how America will first react every time it faces a crisis.

Nato's woefully inadequate response during the Bosnian crisis and the predictable repetition of the same in Kosovo should leave European leaders in no doubt that Europe should be prepared to defend its own position rather than rely on the United States to resolve a European crisis.

America's global strategic interest and Europe's stability may not always be identical. European security should rest primarily with the European states.

Yours faithfully,
F. H. CHOWDHURY,
Hillside Farm, Melton Road,
Hickling Pastures,
Leicestershire LE14 3QG.
April 12.

From Mr Randhir Singh Bains

Sir, You report (April 10) how the news that Russia may be retargeting its nuclear weapons on Nato countries started a flurry of diplomatic activities. Does it not imply that if Serbia had nuclear weapons Nato leaders, instead of bombing it, would still be working to find a diplomatic solution to the Kosovo crisis?

Nuclear weapons, despite the horror and destruction they unleash, seem to have one positive implication: they allow diplomacy to work to its full potential — witness how the erstwhile Soviet Union and the United States learnt to compromise over the Cuban missile crisis in 1962.

Yours faithfully,
RANDHIR SINGH BAINS,
34 Shere Road,
Gants Hill, Essex IG2 6TG.
April 10.

New elements for Lords reform

From Lord Inglewood

Sir, In his response to Andrew Tyrie's view (article, March 26; see also leading article, April 1) that "bicameral democracy" is needed to counter the domination of Parliament by the executive, Lord Skidelsky replies (letter, April 6) that our constitution is based on the executive commanding the support of the House of Commons so it can always have its way, and no executive would propose bicameralism of the kind advocated.

Certainly our present one is not. The royal commission which has been set up to point the way has been given terms of reference which stipulate the House of Commons' continuing "pre-eminence".

Tyrie argues the cause of the democrat wanting the people's elected representatives to reassert their control over the runaway executive via a two-chamber Parliament which is less easy for it to control than either a de facto or de jure unicameral system. Skidelsky makes the constitutionalists' case that any new arrangements must lie within the wider existing constitutional settlement as it has now evolved. Both have worthwhile arguments.

The irony behind the debate is that while the Government has been genuinely radical with some of its constitutional changes it is very conservative in its plans for the second chamber. Other than jettisoning hereditary members, no clear rationale for further substantive change emerges from the rhetoric. Indeed, it now appears not to be a matter of reforming the second chamber at all: rather, principally, it seems to be a matter of changing the personnel.

Yours,
INGLEWOOD,
House of Lords.
April 8.

From Mr Jamie Carnie

Sir, Ideas about reform of the House of Lords abound. At the "safe" end of the spectrum are proposals to nominate or directly elect members. However, these would destroy any last vestiges of an apolitical chamber by filling it with political cronies or professional politicians. Better, but fundamentally undemocratic, is think-tank Demos's idea of random selection (report and leading article, May 30, 1998).

Perhaps most promising of all, but hampered by being untried, is the proposal to elect true "people's peers" democratically by voting on the achievements of individuals who have been nominated at a community level.

Faced with this dilemma, Lord Wakeham's royal commission should consider declaring the next 20 years an experimental period. Up to three of the most promising ideas could be implemented in parallel, each providing an equal proportion of members. The experiment would close with a referendum in which the electorate could select their preferred method (or keep the mix).

This approach would allow the commission to consider some of the more promising but less-tried ideas. Having provided a fair trial on the ground, it would also help to deepen public confidence in the new institution — something that will be greatly needed if it is to be able to carry out its role with as much authority as the old.

Yours faithfully,
JAMIE CARNIE,
Morvern Cottage,
Kilchoan, Argyll PH36 4LH.
jrc@hse.clara.net
April 7.

From the Director of Common Sense for Lords Reform

Sir, Mr William Hutton (letter, April 6) is quite right to inquire about research into public opinion regarding reform of the Lords.

We carried out two major surveys to establish this. The first, by MORI in November, found that by two to one the general public was against getting rid of hereditary peers until a full review had taken place. A second, larger poll by ICM, also in November, confirmed this view by three to one.

Since then the Government has agreed to 92 hereditary peers continuing to attend and vote in the House of Lords during the transitional phase until full reform takes place (after a royal commission).

Yours faithfully,
PETER SANGUINETTI,
Director,
Common Sense for Lords Reform,
1st Floor, Douglas House,
16-18 Douglas Street, SW1P 4PB.
April 6.

From Mr D. J. Hurford-Jones

Sir, Mr Leonard Allen (letter, April 6) correctly points out that our second parliamentary chamber has members coming from a wide variety of the professions and fields of endeavour, many of whom have achieved distinction in their chosen occupation and some of whom are of international repute.

However, most members of the House of Lords come into none of these categories, are only there and entitled to vote on legislation by an accident of birth, and no matter how bad they are or become, we, the people affected by the legislation, cannot get rid of them.

Yours faithfully,
D. J. HURFORD-JONES,
Island House,
Burford, Oxford OX18 4RR.
April 6.

Wildlife protection

From Mr Graham Wynne and others

Sir, One of the most welcome commitments in Labour's general election manifesto was the promise to give greater protection to Britain's wildlife.

Michael Meacher, the Environment Minister, has done an impressive job of building a wide consensus around the need for change in the way we manage our countryside; there is a broad acceptance on the part of the landowning and farming communities that the kind of damage we have seen must not be sustained.

On Tuesday, April 13, the Deputy Prime Minister will receive almost a quarter of a million pledges from members and supporters of 22 conservation and environmental organisations calling for tougher new legislation.

The public support is clear, and so is the urgency. Each year more than 300 sites of special scientific interest are damaged. Further habitats are lost or degraded and vulnerable species are pushed closer to extinction. The longer Government delays in introducing new wildlife laws the more pollution, ploughing, draining, development and neglect will carry on destroying Britain's biodiversity.

On behalf of our three million members — and the thousands of supporters who have signed the wildlife protection pledges — we are calling upon the Prime Minister to put a comprehensive wildlife Bill in the Government's programme this autumn.

Yours etc,
GRAHAM WYNNE,
The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds,
ADRIAN DERBY,
Plantlife,
JULIA HAMNER,
Bat Conservation Trust,
SIMON LYSTER,
The Wildlife Trust,
ROBERT NAPIER,
WWF-UK,
CHARLES SECRETT,
Friends of the Earth,
Wildlife and Countryside Link,
246 Lavender Hill, SW11 1LJ.
April 12.

Mobile phones

From Mr Walter Grey

Sir, You report (April 8) that the best way to limit the brain's exposure to the health hazard of mobile phone microwaves, according to the *New Scientist*, is to use a "hands-free" set which enables the telephone to be worn on a belt.

This is also in line with the advice (not injunction) given to motorists, for different safety reasons, by the Highway Code — that only such sets be used while driving. Recognising the helplessness of the overworked police in this matter, however, science may have to come to the rescue.

Gadgets exist, or are being developed, capable of jamming mobiles being abused in restaurants, concert halls and other public places, or (eg, in an emergency) of pinpointing their location within a few feet from a distance. So why not also a tamper-proof gadget that will, say, automatically immobilise handsets recklessly being used by drivers of vehicles in motion?

Yours faithfully,
WALTER GREY,
12 Arden Road, Finchley, N3 3AN.
April 8.

From Mr David Allison-Beer

Sir, So 4.3 million Britons have acquired the icon of the millennium in the past six months (article, Business, April 7). No doubt, each new owner is informed of the high odds against being able to use it to make or receive calls.

After four years as a mobile owner, I have found the service has deteriorated to a level where I prefer to use a telephone box. These days one rarely has to queue, as everyone is trying to use a mobile, and one may make a call that is not interrupted by extraneous noises or loss of service.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID ALLISON-BEER,
Carrington Cottage,
29 Bridge Road,
Uxbridge, Middlesex UB8 2QP.
April 7.

From Mr Christopher Balkwill

Sir, "Mobile phones 'quicken the brain'", headline, April 8).

At last I know how my student son manages to do nothing much but still gets results.

Yours sincerely,
CHRISTOPHER BALKWILL,
43 Baker Road,
Abingdon, Oxfordshire OX14 5LQ.
April 8.

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 0171-782 5046. e-mail to: *letters@the-times.co.uk*

'Spiral' addition to the V&A contested

From Sir Ronald Arculus

Sir, The proposed "spiral" addition to the Victoria and Albert Museum designed by Daniel Libeskind will, it has been suggested, do for the V&A what Frank Gehry's Guggenheim museum is at present doing for Bilbao — draw the crowds (article by Simon Jenkins, "Pilgrimage to Bilbao", September 18, 1998).

I have just been to Bilbao to see.

Emerging from a grimy industrial past, Bilbao wanted a novelty to attract attention. The Guggenheim is such a spectacle, particularly outside. It is on a huge, clear site by a river. Inside are vast, empty, cathedral-like spaces. Conventional galleries are inserted like white wooden boxes. Enormous pieces of modern sculpture will be constructed to fill the main hangar-like horizontal space.

The case of the V&A is totally different. It may lack space for modern artefacts, but it is not meant to house large chunks of modern art — that is the role of the new Tate Gallery on Bankside. The V&A is well used and renowned worldwide. It does not need a trendy crowd-puller.

The narrow gap behind the existing screen is not suitable for a revolutionary architectural experiment, with its attendant difficulties of construction, maintenance and repairs, and high cost. The spiral plans would provide only two modest floors for galleries. Its odd angles, ramps, stairways and lifts would waste much of the overall space.

A better idea? Simply fill the gap with a stylish Post-Modern building, keeping the screen, with many shallow floors to take offices, records, stores, equipment and services. This would free space in more suitable areas for exhibits, cost far less, be less controversial and more practical. It might not fulfil the dreams of the spiral architect. But Kensington is not Bilbao.

Yours sincerely,
RONALD ARCULUS,
Chairman, Kensington Court Residents Association,
20 Kensington Court Gardens,
London W8 5QF.
April 12.

Age of consent

From the Archbishop of Westminster

Sir, At a time of growing unease both about our society's apparent preoccupation with sex and about the social and health implications of more teenagers having sexual relationships at an ever younger age, is it really wise for Parliament to be legislating to lower the age of consent for homosexual acts to 16 (letters, April 6 and 10)?

We surely need to think very carefully, not only about the need to protect vulnerable young boys and girls from exploitative relationships but also about the wider signals the law should be sending, especially now.

Yours sincerely,
BASIL HUME,
Archbishop's House,
Westminster, SW1P 1QJ.
April 12.

From the Reverend T. G. Anderson

Sir, We are told (by my area bishop among others) that justice demands the defence of lesbian and gay people's human rights, even if there are some who promote the view that homosexual activity is unethical.

The effect of this is to make justice, in terms of equality, the ultimate criterion in deciding what is right and wrong. Is this really the ethical basis on which our Christian tradition is based? And if so, by whose authority?

Yours faithfully,
TIM ANDERSON,
The Vicarage,
122 Goldthorn Hill,
Wolverhampton
West Midlands WV2 3HU.
April 7.

Young letter writers

From Mrs Janet A. Curmi

Sir, Dr Clive Layton (letter, April 6) questioned why a young letter writer's age was published on this page. Is it not simply about recognising, valuing, supporting and encouraging one another, particularly the young, along life's journey?

I was indeed heartened to read a letter from such a young reader. Surely today's youth voicing their interest and concerns about global issues gives us hope for our tomorrow.

Yours sincerely,
JANET A. CURMI
(A new grandmother, aged 57),
Little Common Cottage,
Rayne, Essex CM7 8SU.
April 7.

Devolution licence

From Dr Iain A. McCoubrey

Sir, The Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency is clearly preparing for devolution. My recently issued photocard driving licence gives my place of birth as "Untied Kingdom"!

Yours faithfully,
IAIN McCOUBREY,
12 Mill Paddock, Letcombe Regis,
Wantage, Oxfordshire OX12 9JE.
macknife@compuserve.com
April 12.

COURT CIRCULAR

WINDSOR CASTLE
April 12: The Duke of Edinburgh, Trustee, St George's House, this morning attended a Meeting of the Council followed by Lunch at St George's House, Windsor Castle.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
April 12: The Princess Royal this morning opened Oxford International Biomedical Centre's 5th Oxford Conference on Biomedicine in Asia, Africa, Eastern Europe and Latin America at Westwood House, Hinksey Hill Top, Oxford, and was met on arrival by Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant of Oxfordshire (Mr Hugo Brunner).

Her Royal Highness, Patron, College of Occupational Therapists, this afternoon opened the new Occupational Therapy Department at The Park Hospital for Children, Old Road, Headington, Oxfordshire.

The Princess Royal, Patron, Wooden Spoon Society, later opened the new ACE (Aiding Communication in Education) Advisory Trust building at the Nuffield Orthopaedic Centre, Windmill Road, Headington, Oxfordshire.

KENSINGTON PALACE
April 12: The Duke of Gloucester this morning departed from Heathrow Airport, London to carry out engagements in the Republic of Poland and was received in Warsaw by Her Majesty's Ambassador (His Excellency Mr John Macgregor).

His Royal Highness this afternoon called upon His Excellency Mr Aleksander Kwasniewski (President of the Republic of Poland) at the Presidential Palace, Warsaw.

The Duke of Gloucester this evening attended a Dinner given by Her Majesty's Ambassador at the Residence, Warsaw.

Major Nicholas Barne is in attendance.

ST JAMES'S PALACE
April 12: The Duke of Kent today visited troops of the 7th and 16th Signal Regiments and the ARRC Support Battalion at Rheindahlen and Krefeld, Germany. His Royal Highness also met families of the personnel involved in the current Nato action.

Today's royal engagements

The Princess Royal, as president, The Princess Royal Trust for Carers, attends annual conference of the Association of Inner Wheel Clubs in Great Britain and Ireland at the Scottish Exhibition and Conference Centre, Glasgow, at 11; as patron, World Cooks' Tour for Hunger, attends a luncheon at the Glasgow Hilton at 12.35; as president, The Princess Royal Trust for Carers, attends the East Ayreshire Carers Centre Information Day at 49, The Foregate, Kilmarnock, at 3; and as president, Save the Children Fund, attends a reception to launch corporate fundraising in Scotland at the City Chambers, George Street, at 5.30.

The Duchess of Gloucester opens the new building at the Downs School (for children with special needs), Eastbourne, at 2.05; and as patron, SeeAbility, opens Barclay House (residential housing for visually impaired young adults), St Peter's Road, Seaford, as part of the bicentenary celebrations of the Royal School for the Blind, at 3.15.

Princess Alexandra visits Bethlem Royal Hospital, Beckenham, at 2.30; and as deputy president of the British Red Cross Society, visits the British Red Cross Shop, 129 High Street, London SE20, at 3.40.

For more details about the Royal Family visit the royal website at: www.royal.gov.uk

Birthdays today

The Kabaka of Buganda celebrates his 44th birthday today.

Miss Audrey Barker, writer, 81; Air Vice-Marshal Sir Bernard Chacksfield, 86; Mr Frank Chamberlain, former chairman, Test and County Cricket Board, 74; the Hon Alan Clark, MP, 71; the Right Rev R.N. Coote, former Bishop of Colchester, 84; Mr Liam Cosgrave, former leader, Fine Gael Party, 79; Mr Peter Davison, actor, 48; Mr Edward Fox, actor, 62; Sir LeRoy Harman, former High Court judge, 69; Mr Peter M. Harris, Official Solicitor to the Supreme Court, 62; Air Marshal Sir Kenneth Hayr, 64; Mr Seamus Heaney, poet, 60; Sir Peter Heap, former diplomat, 64; Mr Garry Kasparov, chess player, 36; Mr Howard Keel, singer and actor, 80; the Duke of Marlborough, 73; Mr Jonjo O'Neill, racehorse trainer, 47; Dame Margaret Price, opera singer, 58; Sir Stephen Roberts, former chairman, Milk Marketing Board, 84; Baron Thyssen-Bornemisza, industrialist, 78; Lord Wedderburn of Charlton, QC, FBA, 72; Sir John Weston, diplomat, 61; Lieutenant-General Sir James Wilson, 78.

Nottinghamshire Lieutenancy

Mrs Jennifer Margaret Farr has been appointed Vice-Lord-Lieutenant of Nottinghamshire.

Memorial service

Mr and Mrs Martin Seymour-Smith

A memorial service to celebrate the lives of Mr Martin Seymour-Smith, writer, and Mrs Janet Seymour-Smith, was held on Sunday at St James's, Piccadilly. The Rev Mary Robins officiated.

Ms Charlotte Seymour-Smith, daughter, read from the book of Job, Mr Sean Haldane read *Voyage to an Island* by Martin Seymour-Smith and Mr Jonathan Barker read *Tu Fu Replies to a Query about Li Po* by Warren Hope, Mr Anthony Curtis read from the works of John Donne and Mr Robert Nye read from the works of Shakespeare. Ms Jenny Joseph also gave a reading.

Mr Hugh de Glanville, brother of Janet Seymour-Smith, and Lady Chitty paid tribute to Janet. Mrs Hilary Spurling paid tribute to Martin Seymour-Smith and Mr Simon Jenner read his own poem dedicated to Martin.

Other members of the family, friends, and former colleagues were among those present.

Air Marshal Sir Donald Hall

A service of thanksgiving for the life of Air Marshal Sir Donald Hall, KCB, CBE, AFC, will be held on Thursday, April 22, at noon at St Clement Danes, Strand, London WC2. Those intending to be present are asked to notify the Ministry of Defence, Pld (Ceremonial)(RAF) on 0171 218 2524 or 2628.

Dinners

Athenaeum

Mr D.P.G. Butler was a speaker at an Athenaeum talk dinner held last night at the club. Mr Malcolm Bishop presided.

British American Forces Dining Club

Vice-Admiral Alan West, Chief of Defence Intelligence, was the principal guest at the 217th dinner of the British American Forces Dining Club held last night at Armoury House. Lieutenant-General Sir Edmund Burton, Deputy Chief of the Defence Staff (Systems) and Captain James F. Mader, United States Defence and Naval Attaché, jointly presided.

The Stewart Society — London District

Members of the Stewart Society (London District) attended their annual dinner on April 8 at the Caledonian Club and marked the society's centenary year. Sir Alastair Stewart, Bt, presided and proposed the loyal toast. Mr Alexander Stewart of Ardvorlich (past president), Mrs June Moody-Stuart and Mr Angus Stewart, QC (vice president) who proposed the toast to the society, also spoke. Mrs Angus Stewart cut the centenary cake. Mrs Muriel Walker, Mr Douglas Stuart, Mr Barry Theobald-Hicks and many other guests were present.

ROY RILEY



Kandinsky preview: an early look yesterday at the Kandinsky exhibition which opens at the Royal Academy in London tomorrow and runs to July 14. The first major show in Britain of the orginator of Abstract art will display 125 works on paper

School news

Charterhouse

The Cricket Quarter begins today. Timothy Burke-Murphy remains Head of School and becomes Captain of Cricket. Angeline Abbott remains Head Girl. There will be a lunchtime concert by the Chamber Choir at St Martin-in-the-Fields on Tuesday, May 4. A memorial service for Mr A.S. Day will be held in Chapel at noon on Saturday, May 8. A Boys' Open Afternoon for entry in 2000 and 2001 will be held on Saturday, June 12, and a Girls' Open Afternoon for entry into the Sixth Form in 2000 will be held on Saturday, June 19 (details from the Admissions Registrar). OC Day will be on Saturday, June 26 (details from the Recorder). The Quarter ends on Saturday, July 3.

Queen Margaret's School, York

Summer Term begins on Thursday, April 15, and ends with Speech Day on July 10. The Choral and Orchestral Concert will take place in the College of Ripon and York St John on April 25 and the Junior Concert will be on June 27. Queen Margaret's Show and Gymkhana is on July 5 and Sports Day on July 7. The Art Exhibition will take place in the new Art, Design and Technology Centre on Wednesday, July 7. The Guest Speaker on Speech Day will be Kate Timms, CB. The Himalayan Expedition party departs on July 16.

Arnold School, Blackpool

The Summer Term begins today and ends on July 2. This term's events include: the opening of the Gledhill Drama Studio by Professor Peter Holland, Director of Shakespeare Institute, on April 16; Oxford & Cambridge Arnoldian Dinner at Selwyn College, Cambridge, on May 1; Founder's Day Service with the Rev Dr N. Cranfield, Chaplain, Selwyn College, on May 4; Founder's Day Gala Recital on May 8; Summer Concert on May 12; Upper Sixth Leavers' Service and reception on May 20; Reception for new pupils and their parents on June 14; House of Commons Dinner on June 18; School Play The Secret Garden on June 23-26; Sixth Form Summer Ball on June 25; Parents' & Friends' Family Day at Glenridding Outdoor Pursuits Centre on June 27; Junior School Prize Giving on June 29.

The Summer holiday activities include: the Annual CCF Camp; the Senior Rugby tour to the South of France; the Girls Cricket tour to the South of England; the Summer School and the Design & Technology workshops for local primary schools.

Arnoldians wishing to attend the House of Commons Dinner on June 18 should contact the Headmaster at the School.

Arnold School, Blackpool, is a registered charity which exists for the education of children. Charity No 526679.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr J.K. Barrett and Miss K.M.G. Evans

The engagement is announced between Joe, younger son of Mr and Mrs Joseph Barrett, of Loughrea, Co Galway, and Kate, only daughter of Mr David Evans, of London, and Mrs Elizabeth Evans, of Bray, Co Wicklow.

Mr J.A.L. Berry and Miss G.A. Charkham

The engagement is announced between Jolyon, son of Mr and Mrs Christopher Berry, of Beckenham, Kent, and Gayle, daughter of Mr and Mrs Glen Charkham, of Barnet, Hertfordshire.

Mr M.J. Facer and Miss N.J. Burrage

The engagement is announced between Mark, son of Mr and Mrs Raymond Facer, of Bromley, Kent, and Nicola, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Leslie Burrage, of Burwood Park, Surrey.

Mr S.A. Pearce Higgins and Miss R. Argus

The engagement is announced between Simon, son of Mr and Mrs A.T. Pearce Higgins, of Cambridge, and Robyn, daughter of Mr and Mrs D. Argus, of Melbourne, Australia.

Mr F.E.C. Macpherson and Miss M. McMaster

The engagement is announced between Francis, son of the late Mr Colin Macpherson and of Mrs Christian Stawt, of Marston Magna, Somerset, and Morag, daughter of Mr and Mrs Peter McMaster, of Winchester, Hampshire.

Mr E.A. Murray and Miss S.C. Hill

The engagement is announced between Eoin Angus, only son of the late Lieutenant Colonel and Mrs A. Murray, of Killearn, Stirlingshire, and Sophie Cordelia, daughter of Ms V. Norwood and Mr K. Risk, of Brown Beams, Lower Tysoe, Warwickshire.

Mr P.H.A. Stanley and the Hon Mrs C.M. Parr

The engagement is announced between Peter, son of the late Colonel and Mrs F.A. Stanley, and Caroline, daughter of the Right Hon Lord Renton, QC, and the late Lady Renton.

Marriage

Mr A.T. Heath and Mrs C. Alers-Hankey

The marriage took place on Saturday, April 10, at Staple Fitzpaine, between Anthony (Henry) Heath and Christine Alers-Hankey.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Thomas Jefferson, 3rd American President 1809-09, Shadwell, Virginia, 1743; Richard Trevithick, pioneer of railways, Illogan, Cornwall, 1771.

The Royal Military Academy was established at Woolwich, 1741.

The Catholic Emancipation Act was passed, 1829.

BMDS: 0171 680 6880
PRIVATE: 0171 481 4000

PERSONAL COLUMN

TRADE; 0171 481 1982
FAX: 0171 481 9313

How can young people keep their lives pure? By obeying your commands. Psalm 119.9 (GNB).

BIRTHS

AARDAL - On April 8th at The Portland Hospital, to Kjersti and Ove Andre, a lovely son Marius Andre.

ARMSTRONG - On March 11th, in New York, to Kathy and Arthur, a daughter, Lucy Stella Joy, a beautiful sister for Emily and Rose.

BLUMER - On April 6th at The Portland Hospital, to Marlen and Tim, a lovely son, Loxley Alexander, a beautiful baby brother for Yalina.

BRYAN - On April 1st in Melbourne, Australia, to Kay (née Robinson) and Rod, a son, Charles Horace, a brother for Luke.

BUXTON SMITH - On March 30th at The Portland Hospital, to Jayne Buxton and Patrick Smith, a son, Matthew, a brother for Olivia and Joely.

COOK/MINNS - On April 11th 1999 at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Kings Lynn, to Heather and Neil, a son, Declan 6lbs 8ozs.

FINN - On April 11th at Queen Charlotte's Hospital, to Sarah (née Greenwood) and Crispin, twin daughters, Clara Hermione and Martha Florence.

FLATMAN - On April 8th at The Portland Hospital, to Deborah and Richard, a son, Edward, a brother for Adam and Rebecca.

FREUND - On April 4th at The Portland Hospital, to Lee (née Solomon) and Hilton, a daughter, Hannah Rae. Baruch Hashem.

GREIG - On April 5th at The Portland Hospital, to Jane (née Kilroe) and Jamie, a son, Luke.

GRISEWOOD-STUART - On April 6th at The Portland Hospital, to Jane Steeley and Sean, a beautiful daughter, Josephine Aries.

JOLY de LOTBINIERE - On 7th April, to Onky (née Levett-Scrivener), wife of Giles, a daughter, Agatha Rose, a sister for Thomas, Florence and Johnny.

KEEN - On April 7th at The Portland Hospital, to Isabel (née Niblett) and Matthew, a daughter, Cosima Catherine, a sister for Frederick and Charles.

KHAN - On April 10th at The Portland Hospital, to Jemima and Imran, a son, a brother for Sulaiman.

LAMBERT - On 31st March 1999 to Serena (née Kelley) and Roger, a son, Henry Douglas Uvedale.

MACFARLANE - On April 9th, to Penny (née Farrell) and Oliver, a son, Dominic Archie, a little brother for Aran.

MALINVERNO - On March 27th at The Portland Hospital, to Susan (née Beattie) and Paolo, a son, Alessandro Gordon.

MATHIESEN - On March 15th at The Portland Hospital, to Caroline and Per, a son, Anton, a brother for Louis and Helene.

BIRTHS

MORLEY - On 9th April to Alison (née Arbuthnott) and David Morley, a son, Thomas William.

PARSONS - On 9th April 1999, to Katie (née Martin-Doyle) and Tom, a son, Hector George.

PRESSLAND - To Paul and Amanda (née Paterson) a son, Edward David, on 6th April 1999 at Queen Charlotte's and Chelsea Hospital, a brother ("Little Teddie") for Annabel.

SETH - On April 5th, to Benedetta and Christopher, a son, Thomas Vladimir.

SHARPE - On 6th April to Andrea (née Lucas) and Thomas, a daughter, Georgina Constance.

SLAVEN - On 3rd April 1999 in Auch, France, to Dianne (née Lawrie) and David, a beautiful daughter, Chantal Yvette.

SLOAN - On April 8th at The Portland Hospital, to Frances (née Hooper) and Christopher, a son, James Alexander.

SPITALIER - On April 6th at The Portland Hospital, to Amy-Jo and Jean-Marc, a daughter, Adelaide, a sister for Solenne.

STACY-MARKS - Mr and Mrs A Stacy-Marks of Folkington Manor, Folkington, East Sussex wish to announce the birth of their daughter, Iona, on Saturday 10th April.

STIRLING - On April 7th, to Gillian (née Waddell) and Chris, a son, Lysander Ambrose Nils, a brother for Archie, Sophia and Hector.

SWADLING - On March 23rd at The Portland Hospital, to Jane and Nigel, a daughter, Arabella.

TRIBBECK - On Sunday 11th April at Salisbury Hospital to Fiona and Zach a son, Jack Rickman Godlee.

WEEDON - On 1st April to Jo (née Thomas) and Mike, a lovely daughter, Jasmine Ursula.

WHITEHEAD - On 9th April 1999 in Manchester, New Hampshire, USA, to Cathy and Richard, a son, Charles Patrick, a brother for Hilary and Timothy.

MARRIAGES

HORTON:CAMPBELL - The marriage took place at The Friends Meeting House, Godalming, Surrey on Saturday April 10th between Dr. Robert Arthur Horton, son of Shirley and Arthur Horton, Bognor Regis, West Sussex and Miss Margaret Jean Janet Campbell, daughter of the late Margaret and Iain Campbell, Ardfern, Argyll.

To place death notices, acknowledgements or notices please call 0171 680 6880

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

OTTER - A Service of Thanksgiving for the life of Monica Otter was held on April 10th at All Saints Church, Pilton, nr Oundle. The Lord Lieutenant of Northamptonshire, Lady Juliet Townsend and 250 family and friends were present. £1,400 was donated for Cancer BACUP and the Countryside Restoration Trust. The family are most grateful for the occasion.

DEATHS

BINGHAM - Annette (née Taylor) peacefully at home on 9th April 1999 aged 56 years. Dearly beloved wife of Michael, mother of Giles and grandmother of Abigail. Funeral Service at Glossop Parish Church of All Saints, Old Glossop, on Friday 16th April 1999 at 1.30 pm, followed by cremation at Macclesfield Crematorium at 3 pm. Family flowers only. Donations if desired to The British Refugee Council, 3 Bondway, London SW8 1SJ.

BISHOP - Sir George Sidney C.B., O.B.E., much loved and loving husband and companion of Una, dear father of Prudence and proud grandfather of Martin, Philip, Alistair and Rowena, died peacefully on 9th April following a severe stroke. Cremation at 3.30 pm on Friday, 16th April at the Chilterns Crematorium, Amersham and later, on a date to be announced, a reception in his memory at The Royal Geographical Society. Family flowers only, but a fund in his name to encourage travel and exploration by young people will be established for those wishing to make a donation. An address for contributions will be published shortly.

BOUCHER - Pamela Montfort, widow of the late Major General Valentine Boucher on Friday April 9th 1999 peacefully at Tenterden Nursing Home, aged 88. Memorial Service at St Nicholas Church, Sandhurst, Kent at 3pm Friday April 23rd. No flowers at her request.

BRADBURY - The Hon. Paul, peacefully on April 9th. Funeral service immediate family only. No flowers. Any donations in his memory to John Grooms Association for Disabled People c/o James Giles and Sons Funeral Directors, 24 Stourbridge Road, Bromsgrove, Worcestershire B61 0AE.

BROWN - Brigadier Kenneth Pearce (Peter) late RAMC ret'd. Dearly loved husband of Freda, on Friday 9th April. Funeral at St Nicholas Church, Corfe, Taunton on Friday 16th April at 2.30 pm. No flowers but donations if wished to Army Benevolent Fund, 41 Queens Gate, London SW7 5HR.

DEATHS

BROWN - Sheila Maria, daughter of the late Douglas and Catherine Brown, sister of Nicholas and Christina. Suddenly on 9th April 1999, aged 53.

BRYAN - On April 8th peacefully, John Myddleton Bryan of Pontyates, Llanelli. Former Sales Director of Frayling Furnishers. Late of Les Ouches, France. The beloved husband of Pamela, very dear father of Julia, Rowena and Julian. Funeral Friday, April 16th. Service at Swansea Crematorium 10am. All enquiries to Malcolm I. Silcox and Son, tel: 01554 773120. Donations kindly accepted towards "Kosovo Crisis Appeal" c/o National Westminster Bank, 33, Stepney Street, Llanelli SA15 3YB.

BUCHANAN - David Robert, born 2nd August 1912, died 9th April 1999. Violin maker, portrait and landscape artist.

BURRELL - Patricia peacefully on 10th April 1999 at The Old Rectory Nursing Home, Ewhurst, Surrey. Beloved mother of Sally Anne and Nicky, grandmother of Rebecca, Holly, Lucy and Timothy. Will be sadly missed. Funeral Service at St Nicolas Church, Cranleigh on Friday 16th April at 1pm. All enquiries to Pimms Funeral Services tel: (01483) 274079.

CASSERLEY - Kathleen Mary. On April 9th peacefully at Venn House, aged 102 years. Widow of Walter. Loving and much loved mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. Requiem Mass at Our Lady of Assumption, Tavistock on Friday April 16th at 10 am, followed by private cremation. Flowers if desired and enquiries to S.J. Backwell, 32A Brook Street, Tavistock, PL19 0HE. Tel: 01822 612034.

CAUTLEY-ROBERTS - Anne Mary. Died peacefully on 5th April 1999, aged 92 after a courageous fight against ill health. She will be greatly missed as a much loved person by her family and friends. A Service of Remembrance to be held at Thanet Crematorium on Monday 19th April at 4 pm. Flowers and enquiries to Maskell & Uden, Margate 01843-331788.

COLES - Peacefully at home on April 4th aged 84 after a long illness, Norman Coles CB. Sadly missed by all his family. Funeral Service at St Andrew's Church, Banwell, Somerset on Monday April 19th at 2 pm. Family flowers only. Donations, if wished, for St Andrew's Church Restoration Fund may be sent to C.V. Gower & Son, Funeral Directors, The Square, Winscombe. Tel: 01934 842945.

COLETTA - Cherie Lynn of Wimpole Street. Peacefully in Spain on 8th April after a long illness, aged 51 years. Much loved daughter of George and Jane (deceased), sister of David, Jane and Jennifer (deceased); devoted mother of Camilla and mother-in-law of Guy, adored grandmother of Holly and Gigi. A Memorial Service will be held in June at All Souls, Langham Place.

CRACKNELL - Edwin James died suddenly Sunday 4th April, aged 72 years. Widower of Elizabeth, much loved father of Joanne, Gillian and Alison (deceased) and beloved grandfather. Interment of ashes on Wednesday 14th April at St Nicholas Church, Bedon at 12.45pm. All enquiries to Hillier Funeral Service 01793 532797.

DANIELS - Geoffrey of Chelsea Court, born Swansea, 69, on 7th April. Funeral 3 pm Roehampton Crematorium 16th April. Enquiries: 0181 209 0540.

EASTWOOD - Margaret (née Skrine) on 10th April 1999 suddenly during the second course of David's 80th birthday party dinner, which she had organised in France, surrounded by her friends, without distress to herself but not to those who loved her. Memorial service in Gastard, Wiltshire, later.

ENGLANDER - Dr. David Englander, Reader in History at the Open University, died at Willen Hospice on Wednesday April 7th 1999, much mourned by his widow, Rosemary, and three sons. The funeral will be at The Open University Church, Milton Keynes on Friday 16th April 1999 at 2 pm. David asked for no flowers but for donations to Willen Hospice. Any further enquiries to: H.W. Mason & Sons, Bridge House, Victoria Road, Bletchley, tel: 01908 642700.

GOODSON - On Thursday April 8th, peacefully in Aldeburgh, Suffolk, Sybil much loved mother of Antony, Suzy, Ann and Sally. Funeral at Aldeburgh Parish Church at 2.45pm Thursday April 15th. Family flowers only.

GRAYSON - Margaret Parry (née Jordan), wife of the late Professor Cecil Grayson. Died peacefully at home 7th April 1999. Private funeral.

GREENHILL - Derek Godfrey of Hay Croft, Boughrood, Brecon. Died peacefully on 10th April 1999, aged 86. Beloved husband of Sybil and father of Digby, Barnaby, Charles and Giles. Funeral Service at St Cynog's Church, Boughrood on Wednesday 14th April 1999 at 2.30pm. Family flowers only please. Donations if so desired to The Salvation Army or The Royal British Legion c/o C C James, Funeral Director, Hengardd, Pontithel, Three Cocks, Brecon, Powys, LD3 0SA.

HARRISON - (née Ellis). Peacefully on 7th April 1999 after an accident at home, Helen Margaret (Peggy) of Steyning and formerly of Oxford, beloved wife of Brian, mother of Matthew and Patrick and much loved grandmother. Funeral service at 12 noon on Tuesday 20th April at St Andrew's Church, Steyning to be followed by cremation. Flowers and enquiries to Chalcraft Funeral Directors Ltd, High Street, Steyning. 01903 812656.

HARRISON - Dr Thomas Bennett (late Colonel RAMC) died peacefully at Pershore Cottage Hospital on 10th April 1999. Much loved husband of Nicolette. Private family cremation.

HAYMAN - Olive of Epsom, died on 6th April 1999 after a long and painful illness. Cremation at North East Surrey Crematorium, Morden on 15th April at 3pm. Family flowers only. Donations if desired to Woodland Trust c/o Longhurst Undertakers, 8/10 Pound Lane, Epsom. Requiem Mass to be arranged at a later date.

HOPGOOD - Oliver. On April 9th, 1999 aged 90 peacefully. Private funeral. All enquiries to I.N. Newman Ltd. 01722 413136.

INGHAM - Madge of Longfield, Port Soderick, Isle of Man, died peacefully with her family in London on 10th April 1999 aged 87. Dearly loved mother of Susie and Lizzie, and wonderful, caring Nanna to Richard, Sarah, Mark and Charlie. She faced her last months of ill health with courage, good humour and dignity. She will be greatly missed. Funeral Service at Santon Church, Isle of Man on Friday 16th April at 12 noon. Flowers to be sent to Faragher Funeral Directors, 8 Main Road, Onchan or donations to St Bridget's Hospice, Isle of Man.

JACKSON - Margot (Peggy) peacefully on April 10th. Much loved mother and grandmother. Funeral at St Mary's Church, Ashwell at 11 am on Friday 16th April. Family flowers only. Donations if desired, to the Nicol Cross Brown Leukaemia Trust Fund, c/o Fords of Oakham, 8 Church Street, Oakham, Rutland, LE15 6AA.

JESSOP - Major Richard Hodgkinson (Dick) Royal Berkshire Regiment, subsequently I.E.M.E., on April 8th at home surrounded by his family, after illness borne with fortitude and good humour. Beloved husband of Sheila and father of Virginia and Katherine. Private family funeral. Thanksgiving Service at St Andrew's, Wiveliscombe at 11.30 am on Saturday, May 8th. Donations if wished to Cancer Research and Marie Curie Nurses c/o Antony James Funeral Services, 30, Lion D Angers, Wiveliscombe, Taunton, Somerset.

LATTER - Dr. Kenneth Arthur aged 92 on April 8th in Southwold. Beloved husband of the late Priscilla, and dearest father of Susan, Penny and Robert, a much loved grandpa and great-grandpa and dearly loved friend of Valerie. Thanksgiving Service at St Edmund's Church, Southwold on Friday April 16th at 2 pm, followed by a private cremation. Family flowers only. Donations if desired for Multiple Sclerosis Society or British Diabetic Association to Fishers (Southwold) Ltd., IP18 6LD.

LINKS - Mary (née Lutyens) peacefully at home on April 9th, aged 90. Widow of Joe and much loved mother of Amanda and grandmother of Anna, Nicole and Adam. Cremation at Golders Green on Thursday April 15th, 11.45am.

LOW - On Sunday 11th April Andrew Low died peacefully at home surrounded by his devoted friends. He was much loved by all who knew him and will be sadly missed always. Funeral at 2.30 pm on Thursday April 29th at Penshurst Parish Church followed by a private burial at Otterden on Friday. No flowers please. Donations to Penshurst Church Organ Appeal. All enquiries to H.J. Johnston & Son, tel: (01892) 870372.

LUTTERELL - William, dearly loved husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather. Died peacefully 8th April aged 90. Funeral Service at Mortlake Crematorium, Wednesday 14th April at 2.00pm. Flowers to Garners Funeral Service, 0181 549 3329.

LYLE-BAKER - Audrey. On Easter Day, April 4th 1999 suddenly at Netherhayes, Seaton aged 72 years young. A sweet and much loved sister to Kenneth, Jose, Modesta, Roland, Stuart, Neville, Trevor and Sylvia. Funeral Service at the United Reform Church, Cross Street, Seaton on Friday April 16th at 10.30am followed by cremation at Exeter. Donations to The Kosovo Refugee Fund may be sent to Le-Roy Funeral Service, 10 Alphington Road, Exeter EX2 8HH.

MACDONALD - Peacefully at Highview Nursing Home, Inverness on 11th April 1999, Winifred Mary Thompson, beloved wife of the late Dr. Douglas David Macdonald, Kilmichael, Drumnadrochit, Inverness-shire. Funeral Service on Thursday, 15th April at 2 pm at Kilmichael followed by interment at New Kilmore Churchyard. All friends respectfully invited. Flowers and enquiries to the Funeral Directors: John Fraser & Son, Chapel Street, Inverness, tel: (01463) 233366.

MATTHEWS - Peter, very suddenly in Bath on April 3rd, 1999. Husband of Sarah and loving father of Simon, Susanna, Alexandra, Rupert and Guy. Family cremation at Haycombe Crematorium, Bath, on Tuesday April 20th at 12.30 pm. No flowers, donations if wished to Mencap c/o Co-op Funeral Service, Pulteney Road, Bath BA2 4HP. Memorial service in Cambridge at a later date.

MILLARD - Dr Geoffrey Charles aged 67 died peacefully after a long illness on Friday 9th April in South Africa. Geoff was formerly Head of Department of English and History at Portsmouth. He will be missed by his family and friends. Donations, if desired for Research to Alzheimers Disease Society, Gordon House, 10 Greencoat Place, London SW1P 1PH.

ORCHARD-LISLE - Geoffrey on 10th April 1999 peacefully at home surrounded by his family. Loving and dearly loved husband of Rhona, father of John and Simon, sadly missed by Yvonne and Ginnie and grandsons Jamie, Matthew, David and Edwin. Funeral to be held at St Mary the Virgin, Westmill, Hertfordshire at 3.45 pm on Thursday 15th April. Family flowers only please. Donations, if desired, to the Isobel Hospice or Macmillan Cancer Relief Fund, both c/o Scales F/D, The Old Fire Station, Buntingford, Hertfordshire.

PARKER - Ronald Ernest Alexander. Much loved husband of Eve and beloved father and grandfather, who passed away on 8th April 1999 after much suffering. A service of celebration and thanksgiving at St Thomas' Church, Salisbury on Friday, 16th April at 2.30 pm. No flowers please but donations, if desired, to Cancer Research c/o I.N. Newman Ltd., Griffin House, 55 Winchester Street, Salisbury SP1 1HL.

PUGH - Ronald Fairfax of Milford-on-Sea, formerly of Southampton. Much loved. Recently cremated. Please no letters.

REES - Peacefully on April 9th Christina Frederica Brigid wife of the late Reverend Lorimer Rees, mother of Teresa, Elizabeth and Charles, grandmother of Johanna, Isobel, Charlotte, Veronica, Camilla and James, and great grandmother of Olivia, Annabel, Cameron and Lara. Funeral Service at St Paul's Church Wimbledon Park, Inner Park Road, SW19 on Tuesday April 20th at 11.00am. Family flowers only please. Donations if desired to the Kosovo Appeal.

ROBERTS - Michael John Bromley (Mike) on April 7th 1999, beloved husband of Anne and proud father of Mark and Hannah. Will be greatly missed by many friends. Service at Amersham Crematorium 1.30 pm Thursday 15th April. Family flowers only. Donations to The British Polio Fellowship c/o Church View, 161 Broad Street, Chesham HP5 3EF.

ROBINSON - Dr Garth Barton, aged 64, peacefully on 8th April at Oxford. Emeritus Fellow, Hertford College, Lecturer in Biochemistry 1965-1996. Much loved by his family. Donations if desired to Macmillan Cancer Relief or The Woodland Trust c/o Reeves & Pain Funeral Directors, 288 Abingdon Road, Oxford OX1 4TE.

STEWART-SMITH - On April 7th 1999, Michael, beloved younger son of the late Geoffrey Stewart-Smith and Betty Milner, step-son of John Milner, devoted brother of John and Rosemary and much loved uncle and godfather. Funeral private. A celebration of his life will be held in Wells Cathedral on Monday June 7th, his birthday, at 12 noon. By Michael's request no flowers but donations in his memory to Trinity Hospice, c/o R Medhurst Funeral Directors, Vine House, Hartfield, East Sussex TN7 4AD.

WHELDON - George Frederick of Chelsfield, Kent, died suddenly on 8th April 1999 aged 85, having enjoyed an active life right to the end. Sadly missed by his wife, Kathleen, daughters Janet, Margaret and Anne, and eight grandsons. Private cremation followed by memorial service at Orpington Methodist Church, Sevenoaks Road, Orpington, at 3.15 pm on Tuesday 20th April. No flowers please. Donations in his memory to Christian Aid for the Kosovo Appeal may be sent to Francis Chappell & Sons, Boundary Place, Sevenoaks Road, Orpington, BR6 9JW, (01689) 875116.

WILLOUGHBY - On April 8th 1999 peacefully at Budleigh Salterton, Kathleen (Kit) aged 87. Wife of the late Surgeon Captain Hugh Willoughby, mother of Christopher, Roger and Priscilla, much loved grandmother and great grandmother. Funeral at St Peter's Church, Budleigh Salterton on Monday April 19th at 2.30pm. Family flowers only but donations if desired to The British Red Cross, c/o Palmers Funeral Service, 45 High Street, Budleigh Salterton, EX9 6LF.

WINGFIELD - Robin, beloved husband of Anne, father of James and Charles, died on April 5th aged 58. Funeral at Grimston, Leicestershire on Tuesday April 20th at 2.30pm.

WINNINGTON - Colonel Thomas Foley Churchill (Patrick) Winnington, M.B.E., formerly Grenadier Guards, on Friday 9th April 1999 in his 89th year. Husband of Betty. Father of Anthony, Sarah, Emma and Henry. Funeral at The Guards Chapel, Wellington Barracks, on Friday 23rd April at 11.30 am followed by private cremation. No memorial service. No flowers please, but donations, if desired, to The Guards Chapel, or Help The Aged.

FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS

LUCAS - The Requiem Mass in celebration of the life of Michael Stewart Lucas will take place at St Edward's Roman Catholic Church, Alma Road, Windsor on Friday 16th April at 12 noon. Everybody welcome to attend. Please come and celebrate with us. Flowers or if preferred donations for N.S.P.C.C. may be sent c/o A.B. Walker & Son Ltd., 36 Eldon Road, Reading RG1 4DL.

THANKSGIVING SERVICES

EVANS - Harold Arthur Carlyon. A Service of Thanksgiving for the life of Harold Evans will be held at St Swithuns Church, Swanbourne, Buckinghamshire on 29th April 1999 at 2.15 pm.

IN MEMORIAM - PRIVATE

WYMAN-SMART - Cynthia Rosalind (née Arnholz). Aunt Cis you were a very special lady. Remembering you today on your birthday. Your loving nephew Ian.

BIRTHDAYS

ROBBINGS - Angela Jane. With love and best wishes on your 21st Birthday. Mum, Dad & Adam xxx

SERVICES

PLUMP PARTNERS National Dating Agency. If you are plump or prefer a plump partner ring 01352 715909

WANTED

MINK COATS, fox coats purchased Best price paid. Please send enquiries & details to box 5757

OBITUARIES

MARY LUTYENS

Mary Lutyens, writer, died on April 9 aged 90. She was born on July 31, 1908.

In a creative life which lasted for almost sixty years, Mary Lutyens was variously novelist, serial writer for women's magazines, memoirist, biographer and autobiographer. She began with fiction, opening her account with a collection of short stories entitled *Forthcoming Marriages* in 1933 and earning herself a steady if unspectacular reputation as a novelist in the years before the Second World War.

"To supplement the inadequate income I was making from the novels I wanted to write," as she later put it, she took to women's magazine fiction towards the end of the 1930s and, while hugely enjoying herself, also learnt much about the storyteller's craft from a genre which cannot allow its readers to nod. After the war she wrote romantic novels under the pseudonym Esther Wyndham.

Yet her books from this period have not really maintained a readership and perhaps the most admired and enduring part of her output is the series of literary and art biographies she produced in the 1960s, after her second marriage, to J. G. Links. Characteristic of these is *Effie in Venice* (1965), which is really not biographical at all, but simply an edition of the letters that Ruskin's wife Euphemia wrote during the first four years of their married life. But to this task Mary Lutyens brought both the insight of a highly cultivated mind and the imagination of a novelist. Hence the book is as remarkable for the descriptive and explanatory passages with which she links the letters as it is for the sensitive editing of the letters themselves.

Like Ruskin's, her parents' marriage had suffered from the participants' differing levels of sex drive, and she was able to sympathise with Effie's plight without in any way portraying Ruskin in an unsympathetic light. In the book, Ruskin, though completely unable to satisfy Effie sexually, is affectionately depicted as a man who genuinely wanted to make sure that his young wife had a good time.

Mary Lutyens grew up in an atmosphere that was both creative and had much of the ambience of the Raj about it. In India her father, the architect Sir Edwin Lutyens, was creating the Viceroy's house in New Delhi. Her grandfather on her mother's side was Edward Robert Bulwer Lytton, poet, 1st Earl of Lytton and Viceroy of India, 1876-80. Her sister was to become the composer Elizabeth Lutyens.

While it was in many ways a secure childhood of nannies and nurseries, it had its unorthodox side. Her mother, Lady Emily, developed an obsession with theosophy as personified by its comely proponent Krishnamurti and spent much of her time in the company of globetrotting theosophical aspirants and masters.

A long and versatile literary life: Mary Lutyens seen at her London home in 1983

As they grew older her children also partook of this company. Mary Lutyens herself took instruction from the Krishna and entered a phase of religious exaltation. She later came to conclude that this had more to do with emotional than spiritual need, focusing as it did on Krishnamurti's brother Nitya and fading after his premature death from tuberculosis. But theosophy continued to interest her and biographical writings on Krishnamurti occupied the latter years of her life.

She was educated privately and at Queen's College, London. In 1930 she married Anthony Sewell, by whom she had a daughter. The marriage was dissolved in 1945.

She followed her first book with novels at barely more than yearly intervals until after the Second World War. Characteristic of her output during the early period were *Perchance to Dream* (1935), *Spider's Silk* (1939) and *Family Colouring* (1940), which combined her ability to view emotional situations close up with a gift for conveying a strong sense of the sort of society in which she had grown up.

Her fictional talents, particularly the deft touch she had exhibited in *Forthcoming Marriages*, recommended her in the late 1930s to an editor at Amalgamated Press, which published the magazines *Woman's Weekly* and *Woman and Home*. As Esther Wyndham she was soon writing prolifically for both titles.

As she later recalled, the mores of the day made the sexual propriety of these stories an extremely clearly defined business. On one occasion when she had allowed her heroine, who was on a visit to her hero in Washington, to pass the night in the sitting room of his hotel because there was no other accommodation for her in the city, she received a telegrammed injunction from Amalgamated: "Please make another effort to find Elizabeth a room of her own." From the 1940s to the 1960s Esther Wyndham also published a dozen novels, most of them with Mills & Boon.

Her output of serious novels continued into the 1970s, but she increasingly branched out into other literary forms. *To Be Young: Some Chapters of Autobiography* (1959) was an unsentimental but lively account of her childhood and in particular her mother's involvement with theosophy. *Millais and the Ruskins* (1968) developed the Ruskin story from the position it had reached at the end of *Effie in Venice*, describing Millais' impact on the Ruskin marriage and its eventual collapse. *The Lyttons in India* (1979) was an account of her grandfather's viceroyalty, while *Edwin Lutyens* (1980) was a portrait of her father which sympathetically traced the course of his marriage from the early affection reflected in the love letters he and his wife wrote to each other to his despair as her obsession with Krishnamurti and theosophy deepened.

The Indian theosophist was himself the subject of a number of Mary Lutyens's books, biographical and analytical, and of *The Penguin Krishnamurti Reader* in two volumes (1970 and 1973).

Mary Lutyens's second marriage, in 1945, to the furrier turned Venetian art expert J. G. (Joe) Links, was an exceptionally happy and fulfilling one. His cataloguing of the works of Canaletto occupied the last 25 years of his life and his and Mary's frequent visits to Venice deepened a mutual interest in the Ruskins which had begun when, somewhat curiously perhaps, they had chosen to follow in the honeymooning footsteps of Ruskin and Effie on their own honeymoon. In addition to her works on the Ruskins he published *The Ruskins in Normandy* as well as a masterly abridgement of *The Stones of Venice*.

A gentle, delicate and refined woman, Mary Lutyens was at the same time possessed of a robust mind and was a spirited talker on a wide range of subjects.

Joe Links died in 1997. She is survived by the daughter of her first marriage.

PROFESSOR MARGOT JEFFERYS

Professor Margot Jefferys, medical sociologist, died on March 3 aged 82. She was born on November 1, 1916.

MARGOT JEFFERYS was a founder of medical sociology in Britain. Her interests as both a researcher and a teacher spanned the social dimensions of health, healthcare organisation, social medicine, social gerontology, social policy, social history and medical education. She influenced a whole generation of medical sociologists, and throughout her long career was a bridge between the social sciences and medicine (though she could be critical of both). Her work brought her international recognition as one of the most distinguished figures in postwar British sociology.

She was born Margot Davies, in India, where she lived for the first eight years of her life. She then came to England where she went to Berkhamsted School and then the London School of Economics, taking a first in economic history in 1938.

During and immediately after the war, she continued to pursue her academic and political interests, balancing these with the birth of the two sons of her marriage, in 1941, to James Jefferys.

Her first academic appointment was at Bedford College in 1949, as a research worker on a project dealing with mobility and the labour market, which was to be the subject of her first book. By the early 1950s, however, partly as the result of the influence of Barbara Wootton, her interest in medicine and health was growing. In 1953 John Brotherston, then Reader in Public Health at the London School of Hygiene, recruited her to undertake the teaching which would broaden the horizons of public health students. There she met another social scientist, Ann Cartwright, with whom she had a close professional and personal relationship for the rest of her life. While at the School she undertook her second major study, *An Anatomy of Social Welfare*.

In 1965 she returned to Bedford College, having become frustrated with medical influence over the careers and research of social scientists. A tour of America showed how much more independent they could be. She became the Director of the Social Research Unit, funded by the Department of Health, and in 1968 she was given a personal chair in medical sociology.

In that year the Todd report on medical education recommended an enhanced role for medical sociology, which Jefferys helped to establish first in London medical schools and then throughout Britain. This was one of the first attempts to prepare doctors for wider responsibilities for their patients and within the institutions where they work.

Jefferys also helped to set up an intercalated degree in medical sociology in London, enabling students to obtain an honours degree alongside their medical qualification. In 1969 she launched, with George Brown, the Master of Science degree in medical sociology at Bedford College. Many of those who took the course have since gone on to leading academic and research positions throughout Britain and abroad.

Jefferys's own research interests were wide and various. She collaborated, for instance, with the famous rehabilitation specialist Michael Warren on disability assessment; and she took part in a study of general practice and the development of multidisciplinary teams within health centres.

She retired from Bedford College in 1982, but continued to lead a research initiative on ageing for the then Social Science Research Council, which allowed her to pursue her longstanding interest in the health and care of the elderly. In 1989 she edited *Growing Old in the Twentieth Century*.

She was the recipient of many awards and honours, and from 1992 to 1997 she was a visiting professor at the Centre of Medical Law and Ethics at King's College London, where she worked on health ethics. Her support for colleagues was exceptional, combining scholarship with great personal warmth.

Margot Jefferys is survived by her two sons; her marriage to James Jefferys was dissolved in 1959.

PERSONAL COLUMN

TICKETS FOR SALE

ACCESS TICKETS World Wide Sporting Events, Top West End Shows & Pop Concerts 0171 821 6616 All Avail

ALL AVAIL. Springsteen, Jamiroquai, R.E.M, All Pop, Theatre, Rugby & Sport. 0171 536 0781

CHEAPEST IN LONDON Phantom, Chicago, Saigon. All pop & sport. We deliver. 0171 930 8636

CRICKET W/CUP Rugby World Cup. Eng V Sweden Ascot All Grand Prix Lion King, Wimbledon Debs. Major sporting events, theatre 0171 394 8283 CC's

ALL TICKETS
WIMBLEDON DEBS
ENG v SWEDEN
BRITISH GRAND PRIX
ROYAL ASCOT
BRUCE SPRINGSTEEN
0171 283 4040
CREDIT CARD HOTLINE

CORPORATE HOSPITALITY
ALL TICKETS
5 NATIONS
WORLD CUP
RUGBY
GRAND PRIX
FOOTBALL, ASCOT
CRICKET, ETC
TEL 01675 443848

FOR SALE

THE TIMES - 1791 - 1999 other titles available. Ready for presentation - also 'Sundays'. Remember When. 0181 763 6363 or Call Free 0500 520000

YORK, PENNANT, slate, limestone & terracotta flagstones & floor tiles. Cobble setts, stone troughs, masonry service. Nat & internal del. Holloy Hextall 01380 850039 (Wilts)

MORNING SUITS
DINNER SUITS
EVENING TAIL SUITS
SURPLUS TO HIRE
LIPMAN & SONS
West End Tel 0171 240 2310
22 Charing Cross Rd WC2
City Tel 0171 623 7721
156 Fenchurch St EC3

LEGAL, PUBLIC, COMPANY & PARLIAMENTARY NOTICES

TO PLACE NOTICES FOR THESE SECTIONS PLEASE:
Telephone 0171 680 6878
Fax 0171 782 7930
Or Email
tnl.features@newsint.co.uk

Notices are subject to confirmation and should be received by 2.30pm two days prior to insertion.

FOR SALE

A BIRTHDATE Newspaper Original. Superbly presented. Freephone 0800 906609.

OVERSEAS TRAVEL

SAIL Spitzbergen ex. Tromso on 50' steel yacht. June. 15 days. Superb value. 01962 772252.

SITUATIONS VACANT

NEW THAI RESTAURANT REQUIRES
MANAGER..........18K
HEAD CHEF..........18K
SECOND CHEF..........12K
HEAD WAITER..........12K
WAITING STAFF..........9K
WRITE WITH CV TO
THE THAI RAINBOW RESTAURANT
84 - 86 MARKET STREET
ASHBY DE LA ZOUCH
LEICESTERSHIRE LE65 1AP

FLATSHARE

FULHAM: Large bedroom with own bath in very comfortable family house. Close tube, bus, shops, restaurants. Available for female, non smoker. Refs required. All inc, except tel £170 p.w. Tel Waddington AM: 0171 462 8915 or PM 0171 731 1733.

SHARE-A-FLAT Ltd. For a fast, convenient, professional flat sharing service (0171) 464 4133

FLIGHTS DIRECTORY

FLIGHT SEARCHERS
FLORIDA MILLENNIUM HOLIDAYS
01920 484007

FLIGHTSEEKERS
MILLENNIUM AVAILABILITY
0171 663 4425

FLIGHTS DIRECTORY

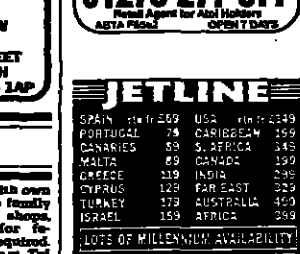


FARESAVERS

SPAIN	fr £59	GREECE	fr £89
ALICANTE	£59	TURKEY	£129
FARO	£59	ISRAEL	£129
TENERIFE	£59	MALTA	£89
LAS PALMAS	£59	CYPRUS	£109
LANZAROTE	£69	ITALY	£99
BALEARICS	£59	CARIBBEAN	£159

ALL EUROPEAN/WORLDWIDE FLIGHTS
01476 592095

Jetworld
Flights include all Taxes
MILLENNIUM AVAILABILITY
01273 277 877
Retail Agent for Atol Holders



JETLINE

SPAIN	rtn fr £69	USA	rtn fr £249
PORTUGAL	79	CARIBBEAN	199
CANARIES	89	S. AFRICA	349
MALTA	89	CANADA	199
GREECE	119	INDIA	299
CYPRUS	129	FAR EAST	329
TURKEY	179	AUSTRALIA	499
ISRAEL	159	AFRICA	399

LOTS OF MILLENNIUM AVAILABILITY
0171 360 1111

OVERSEAS EXPRESS
BEST OFFERS WORLDWIDE
0171 724 2121
LOCAL TAXES NOT INCLUDED

ANNOUNCEMENTS

YOUNG CHELSEA BRIDGE club and school (18 - 40 age group). Tel: 0171 373 1665

FLIGHTS DIRECTORY

DELTA WORLDWIDE
Drop in for fantastic fares...
0161 272 8433

PUBLIC NOTICES

PARAMOUNT PLASTIC PRODUCTS LIMITED
(IN VOLUNTARY LIQUIDATION)
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on 28 September 1998 the Company was placed into Members' Voluntary Liquidation and that Roger W Gillett of Crane & Partners was appointed Liquidator by the shareholders. The Liquidator gives notice under the provisions of Rule 4.182A of the Insolvency Rules 1986, that the creditors of the company must send their details, in writing, of any claim against the Company to the Liquidator at Rutland House, 44 Masons Hill, Bromley, Kent BR2 9EQ by 20 May 1999, which is the last day for proving claims. The Liquidator also gives notice that he will then make a final distribution to creditors and that a creditor who does not make a claim by the date mentioned will not be included in the distribution.
R W GILLETT
LIQUIDATOR
DATE 7 April 1999

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN
WE, PHILLIP CHARLES KEY & ANTHONY GOSBERT of The Parade, Grand Parade, Skegness HEREBY GIVE YOU NOTICE that we intend to apply to the said Licensing Justices at the Transfer Sessions to be held at The Court House, Park Avenue, Skegness, on the 28th day of April next for a Special Hours Certificate under Section 77 of the Licensing Act 1964 for the licensed premises situate at Grand Parade, Skegness, and know as "Henry's" AND FURTHER TAKE NOTICE that if such Certificate is granted Section 76 of the said Act will apply to the said premises from the 28th day of April next
ANY PERSON intending to oppose the application shall give notice in writing of his intention to the Applicant and the Clerk to the Licensing Justices specifying in general terms the grounds of his opposition not later than seven days before the commencement of the above Sessions Dated this 1st day of April 1999.
GOSSCHALKS Queens Gardens, Hull
Solicitors for and on behalf of the said Applicants

E COWARD & CO LIMITED
(IN VOLUNTARY LIQUIDATION)
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on 23 March 1999 the Company was placed into Members' Voluntary Liquidation and that Roger W Gillett of Crane & Partners was appointed Liquidator by the shareholders. The Liquidator gives notice under the provisions of Rule 4.182A of the Insolvency Rules 1986, that the creditors of the company must send their details, in writing, of any claim against the Company to the Liquidator at Rutland House, 44 Masons Hill, Bromley, Kent BR2 9EQ by 1 June 1999, which is the last day for proving claims. The Liquidator also gives notice that he will then make a final distribution to creditors and that a creditor who does not make a claim by the date mentioned will not be included in the distribution.
R W GILLETT
LIQUIDATOR
DATE 7 April 1999

IN THE MATTER OF CHANTGIFT LIMITED T/A THE WILLOWS HOTEL, THE QUEENS HOTEL AND THE ROBIN HOOD HOTEL AND IN THE MATTER OF THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
This is to certify that a meeting of Creditors and Contributories of the above named Company held on 01/04/1999. Jamie Taylor of Messrs Begbies Traynor, The Old Exchange, 234 Southchurch Road, Southend-on-Sea, Essex SS1 2EG having provided written statement that he is qualified to act as an Insolvency Practitioner in relation to the above named company under the provisions of the Insolvency Act 1986, and that he consents to act, was appointed Liquidator of the company. Dated this 01/04/1999.
Efstathios Menahos. (Chairman)

LEGAL NOTICES

THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
OCEAN P & I SERVICES LIMITED
(IN RECEIVERSHIP AND IN LIQUIDATION)
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Creditors of the above named company are required on or before the 28 May 1999 to send their names and addresses and particulars of their debts or claims and the names and addresses of the solicitors (if any) to C J W Hill and G H Hughes the Joint Liquidators of the said company, at Ernst & Young, Rolls House, 7 Rolls Buildings, Fetter Lane, London EC4A 1NH and, if so required by notice in writing from the said Joint Liquidator, by their solicitors or personally, to come in and prove their said debts or claims at such time and place as shall be specified in such notice, or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such debts are proved.
Dated 6th April 1999
C J W Hill
Joint Liquidator

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE CHANCERY DIVISION COMPANIES COURT NO. 01845 OF 1999
IN THE MATTER OF THE THROGMORTON TRUST PLC
AND
IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Order of the High Court of Justice (Chancery Division) dated the 31 March 1999 confirming the reduction of the Company's share capital from £24,500,000 to £23,000,000 and the Minute approved by the Court showing with respect to the capital of the Company as altered the several particulars required by the above-mentioned Act were registered by the Registrar of Companies on the 1 April 1999.
Dated the 1 April 1999
STEPHENSON HARWOOD
One St Paul's Churchyard
London EC4M 8SH
Solicitors for the above-mentioned Company (Ref:198).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

COURT & SOCIAL

FORTHCOMING MARRIAGES AND MARRIAGES

Please send Court page announcements by post/fax to: Mrs J Neenan, Court & Social Advertising, The Times, PO Box 495, Virginia Street, London, E1 9XS. Tel: 0171 782 7347 Fax: 0171 782 7725

Please include in all correspondence: a signature of either one of the parties concerned or a parent, a daytime and home telephone number and address.

Advertisements for the Court page must be received two working days prior to publication and are accepted subject to confirmation.

Advertising Rate is £17.04 per line inc VAT.

OLIVE SHAPLEY

Olive Shapley, *broadcaster*, died on March 14 aged 88. She was born on April 10, 1910.

AS A pioneer of radio features before the war, Olive Shapley was one of the first broadcasters to allow ordinary people to talk on the radio. Later, as a presenter of documentaries and of *Woman's Hour* during the 1950s and 1960s, she was ahead of her time in airing social issues which were once unmentionable and are now unavoidable.

Her early years were greatly influenced by Dame Dorothy Brook, head of Mary Datchelor Girls School in South London, and then by her time up at Oxford, where she went in 1929 to read modern history. On her very first night at St Hugh's a sturdy girl with red hair and a brown velvet dress introduced herself to Olive and proceeded to sing the praises of the North of England. They became close friends, especially when Barbara Castle invited her to stay with her family.

One result of another Oxford friendship, with Freda Houlston, who became a Buddhist nun, was that Shapley was able to interview the Dalai Lama during her extensive travels.

Her BBC career began in 1934 on *Children's Hour* in Manchester, where her first impressions were of cobbled streets, endless mill chimneys and "magnificent chemical sunsets". *Children's Hour* was then in transition from being "something for the kiddywinks" to a balanced service for the young. The jolly days of Aunts and Uncles were numbered. Shapley — known at the microphone as "Anna" — started a series of "Your Own Ideas", which encouraged children to send in poems, stories and plays to be read and performed by professionals.

After three years of bringing *Children's Hour* into the real world, Shapley joined the adult features and drama department. She vividly remembered a broadcast in which a party of Durham miners were invited to talk live and unscripted. Shortly after the transmission began she had to take a hastily chalked notice into the studio, reading "Don't say bloody or bugger again".

The BBC's North Region was then headed by the Marxist Archie Harding, whose first words to her were "Welcome, Comrade" and who encouraged his team to break away from the plummy conservatism of Broadcasting House. A prime example of how Shapley rose to the challenge was *The Classic Soil*, with a remarkably radical script by her friend and fellow leftwinger Joan Littlewood.

Shapley's highly individual radio features were greatly assisted by the introduction of the mobile disc recording van, with cables long enough to be taken into the homes of the kind of people who had never been allowed to broadcast before. "By the outbreak of war," as she later said, "the battle for the radio feature had



been won. Broadcasting did now consist of more than the voices of the great and the good."

In 1939 she married John Salt, the leader of the BBC's creative radio talent in Manchester. This meant leaving the BBC under the rules regarding staff marriages, but she continued to work on contract, making documentaries about how people coped with the privations of war.

When Salt moved for the BBC to New York after the attack on Pearl Harbor, she went too and worked as a documentary and talks producer. She also broadcast her own series of fortnightly *Letters from North America* for children between 1942 and 1945. On one occasion she was baffled when a man she had just interviewed declined her invitation to dinner. "You and I, a coloured man, could not be seen in the same restaurant together," Paul Robeson explained.

Before the death of her husband in 1947, she had three children — who were to become very well-informed on a range of subjects, because all of her scripts were taken home and used for scribbling pads.

By 1949 she was back in London presenting *Woman's Hour* and tackling forbidden subjects such as single mothers and "the change of life". She also presented the television series *Women of Today*, and had a storytelling slot for young children.

In 1952 she married a businessman, Christopher Gorton, but he died in 1959. She went on to present three series of *The Shapley File*, which took a personal look at social issues such as homelessness. She also worked as a freelance for BBC Children's Television, where she launched Brian Redhead as presenter.

After Gorton's death, she turned their large house in Didsbury into a home for unmarried mothers, who at that time were expected either to abandon any hopes of worthwhile jobs or higher education, or else give their babies up for adoption. With help from Dame Kathleen Ollerenshaw, she established the Rose Hill Trust to help to change this.

Later, she sheltered 25 Vietnamese refugees for two years, and tried to organise communal living for old people. She published her autobiography, *Broadcasting a Life*, in 1996.

She is survived by her daughter and two sons.

ON THIS DAY

April 13, 1908

When Henry Campbell-Bannerman resigned because of ill-health, Herbert Asquith succeeded him. The new Cabinet was noted for the promotion of Lloyd George and Winston Churchill.

THE MINISTERIAL CHANGES

The principles which have guided the new Prime Minister in his task are easily deducible from the changes and appointments made. He has wished to preserve the balance of opinion in the Cabinet, and therefore, as he is a Liberal Imperialist succeeding a Radical in the Premiership, he has appointed a Radical in the person of Mr Lloyd-George to the Chancellorship of the Exchequer.

He has been anxious, at a time when public opinion has been running strongly against the Liberals, to introduce new blood, and especially to promote younger men of promise in his party, such and Mr Lloyd-George, Lord Crewe, Mr Churchill, Mr McKenna, Mr Runciman, Colonel Seely, and Mr F. Acland.

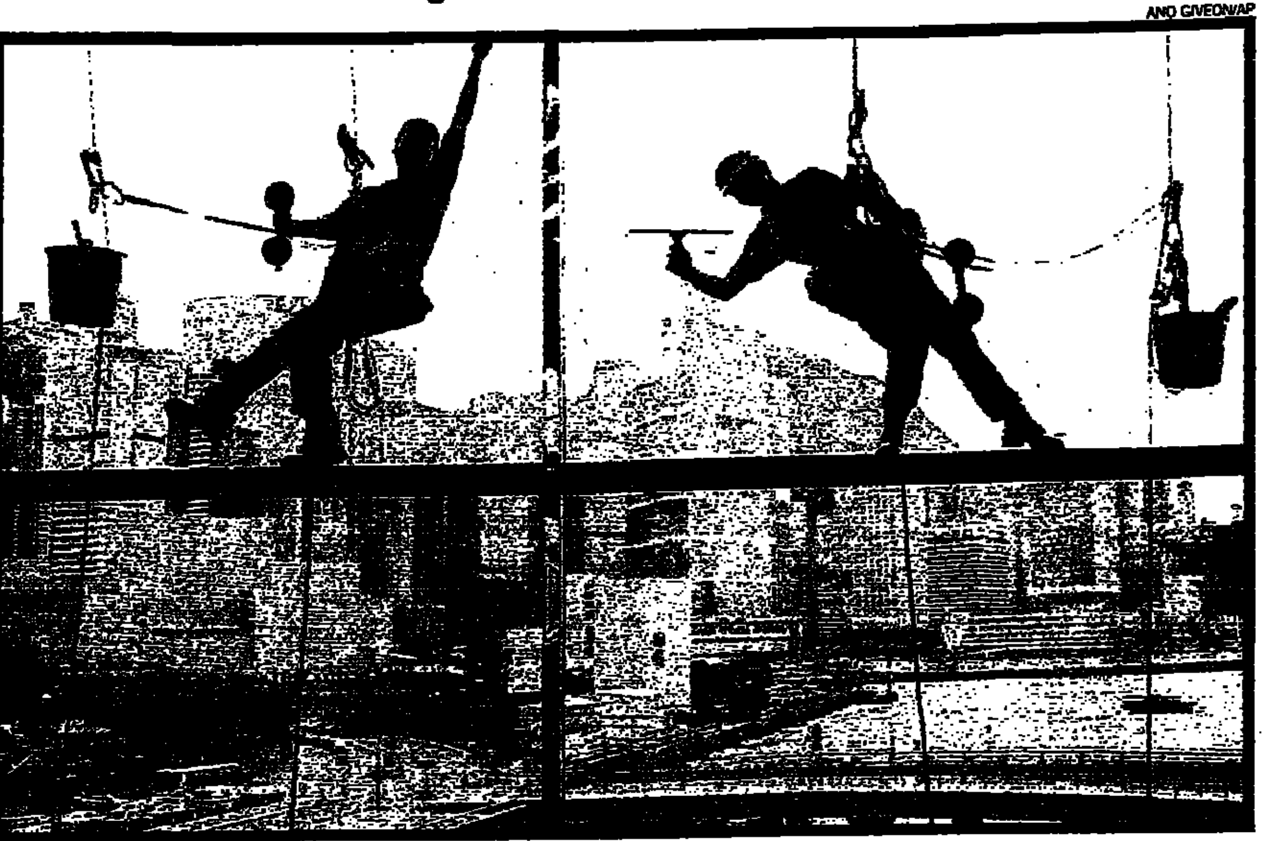
He has obviously been impressed by the weakness which the representatives of the Admiralty have shown in the House of Commons, and has determined to have the heads of both the great spending departments in the House that controls expenditure. He has resolved to bring about a compromise on the education question, and it is clear that the first step towards compromise is to move an Education Minister whose fortunes are bound up with a Bill which will have to be either abandoned or tansformed, and who has, moreover, so administered his office as to provoke the strong hostility of Churchmen and Roman Catholics. Finally, he must have been painfully conscious of the weakness of the Government bench in the House of Lords, and has done his best to strengthen it by the appointments of Lord Crewe, in the place of the veteran Lord Ripon, and by calling up Mr Morley, one of the principal ornaments of the Ministry . . .

The election of Mr Lloyd-George for the Chancellorship of the Exchequer is universally approved. His administration of the Board of Trade has been thoroughly satisfactory to men of business, who found him quick to seize their points, and anxious, without any excessive reverence for orthodox trade doctrine, to help them if he could, either by legislation or administratively. He has also shown remarkable capacity for bringing disputants into agreement . . .

Much public interest will centre round Mr Churchill's appointment to the Board of Trade, especially as he is to be opposed for re-election in Manchester and will have to face a keen fight. After the Prime Minister himself, he is, perhaps, more associated than any other Minister with the defence of orthodox Cobdenism . . .

Outsourcing is old hat; businesses are revising the role of their office support services. **Rodney Hobson** reports

In-house is in vogue again



Window cleaning, performed by two workers, above, and below by a machine, is a typical responsibility of the facilities manager

Talk about whether companies should outsource all their support operations or handle everything in-house was all the rage only 12 months ago, but suddenly it seems to be old hat. Now the buzzwords are right sourcing and hybrid sourcing.

Professor Ilfryn Price, co-director of the facilities management (FM) research centre at Sheffield Hallam University, explains: "The change in government policy since 1997 has in some ways put a dampener on the seemingly interminable growth of FM outsourcing because it put 'best value' on the agenda. Managerial practice was forced into a more concentrated search for value and not just automatically deciding that things would be done in house or out.

"There is much more of a genuine desire for service companies in FM to have to show that they are providing added value, for example through better development of people or by linking FM to the management of assets or information."

Companies are looking to manage their facilities in partnership with FM providers, setting up hybrid operations that involve some degree of outsourcing but effectively operate in-house.

Professor Price says: "Whereas the first phase of the development of the industry from the early Nineties onwards was perhaps driven by opportunities to chase low-lying fruits — FM providers were plucking the easy bits — what is happening now is that some FM companies out there are developing innovative market techniques and are doing very well.

"On the other hand, some internal managers are delivering better value than average. A more mature industry is developing and I think more and more organisations, especially in the complex public sector areas such as hospitals, are appreciating that value for money demands alternatives to meet different strategies."

> 'Some internal managers deliver better value'

In the rush to outsource, the terms "outsourcing" and "facilities management" started to become synonymous in the public eye. Yet the greater proportion of facilities managers are still employed in-house and the balance will stay that way.

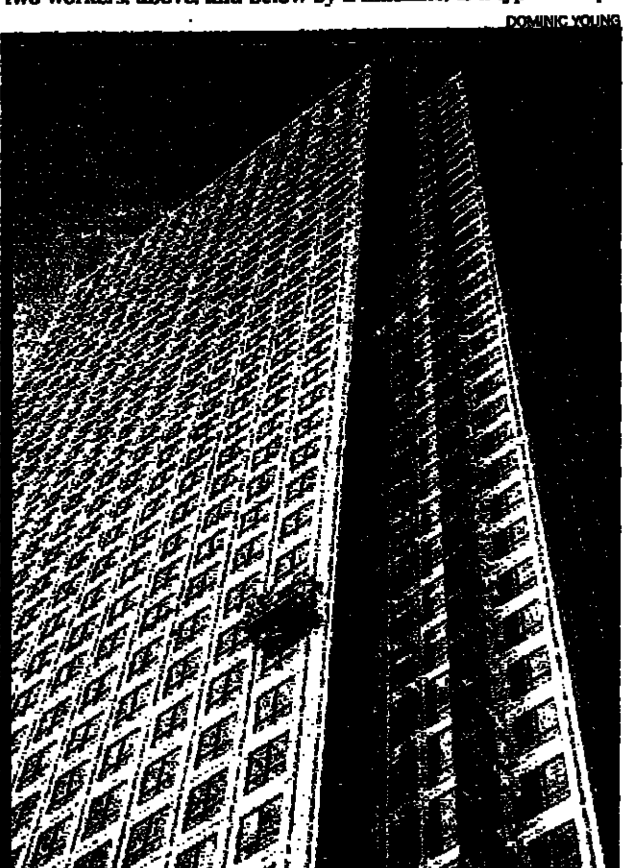
It is against this background that the British Institute of Facilities Management (BIFM) is seeking not only to raise standards but to set a benchmark — a widely recognised accreditation — against which providers can be judged.

Sir Antony Walker, the new director-general of the BIFM, is particularly keen to raise standards and develop training programmes, seeing this as a way not only for members to win more business but also as a way to strengthen the institute's lobbying power and extend its influence into Europe. Training and qualifications are available for the institute's 5,500 individual members but there is no piece of paper that companies can wave to attest to their competence.

At the end of last year Sir Antony approached the FM consultancy Aimita to devise an accreditation programme for its 200 corporate members. In doing so he caught the mood of many of them who have increasingly felt that the institute should do more to set industry standards that everyone can recognise.

Aimita is adapting the Business Excellence Model devised by the European Foundation for Quality Management, a European Union organisation.

Aimita has also enlisted the help of Southampton Institution, which has run accreditation programmes in other areas of business and which was keen to get involved.



DOMINIC YOUNG

As a first step, large organisations such as Rolls-Royce, IBM, Xerox and government bodies have been approached and it is hoped that at least 25, and possibly as many as 50, major companies will get involved.

Although the agreement between the BIFM and Aimita is for three years, Aimita aims to roll out a proposed model for the FM industry at the BIFM annual conference in September.

Lionel Prodgers, BIFM chairman, says: "It is the non-core activities that require the efficient management, co-ordination and administration that best practice in FM brings, very often in complex environments or tough commercial conditions.

"The more complex aspects of FM now include the complete management of the workspace, including best utilisation of built and physical assets, information management, communications and information technology.

"It is these higher level business challenges that require everyone in the maturing FM market to consider the need for greater education in the field, quality research and an understanding of the European and international dimensions of the whole industry."

Office costs fall short of inflation rate

Maintenance and gas are the two fastest-rising costs for offices, while reprographics and catering are getting cheaper. The latest survey by Johnson Controls, an international facilities and property management company, shows that the overall costs involved in running an office rose at less than the rate of inflation (2.5 to 3 per cent) in the last six months of 1998; this trend is likely to continue until mid-1999.

According to Johnson's UK office costs index, the cost of providing property operations and office services rose by £19 per full-time occupant in the second half of last year, an increase of 1 per cent (to £2,410) compared with the first half of 1988. This means that an average facility supporting 500 people ran up total bills of just over £1.2 million last year for building maintenance, cleaning, security, utilities, communications, reprographics, post-room services, reception facilities, internal moves, catering and stationery.

The index does not include rents and rates, insurance, service charges, depreciation and capital investments (including information technology). Published every half-year, it is intended as a management tool based on a model of a medium-grade office building with 500 full-time occupants.

Maintenance costs rose by 3 per cent during the second six months of 1998. The most significant rise was in labour costs, which increased by nearly 5 per cent. The price of maintenance materials rose by just 1 per cent, continuing the trend of the previous half-year. Johnson believes the index for both halves of 1999 will show steadier cost increases as wages level out.

Labour costs for cleaning and security have also abated, with the prospect of a static year in 1999 if the economic downturn continues. In these service areas, costs have risen in line with inflation.

Management costs rose by 2 per cent in the second half of last year. Among the utilities, gas prices rose by 3 per cent compared with the previous six-month period. Johnson expects prices to hold steady during the current half-year.

Water costs rose in line with inflation. Johnson expects an easier year in 1999. It points out that the water regulator (Oftwat) is pushing for rate cuts, which should at least head off further price rises in the next few months.

Electricity prices rose by 1 per cent during the latest review period. Johnson predicts an increase of about 2 per cent in the current survey period. The imponderable for future price trends in gas and electricity is whether the Chancellor will impose a new energy tax, pushing up electricity prices by a further 10 per cent.

> A new tax would push up electricity prices by 10 per cent

With postage costs static, mailroom costs rose by 0.5 per cent because of higher labour costs. Three areas of office costs experienced a fall during the six months to December. Catering costs fell by 1 per cent thanks to reductions in food prices. Communications costs were down by about 1 per cent.

The big gain, though, was in reprographics, where a continued downward trend in the price of equipment slashed total costs by 3 per cent over the six-month period.

RODNEY HOBSON

Managing workplace change

COMPANIES which provide single services such as catering, cleaning and security for other businesses are playing an increasingly important part in the FM industry, *writes Tony Dawe.*

That change will be reflected at FM Expo 99, which opens at Olympia, London, today and continues until Thursday. Both the show and the conference running alongside it will focus more on providing individual facilities than on the work of companies offering total FM packages.

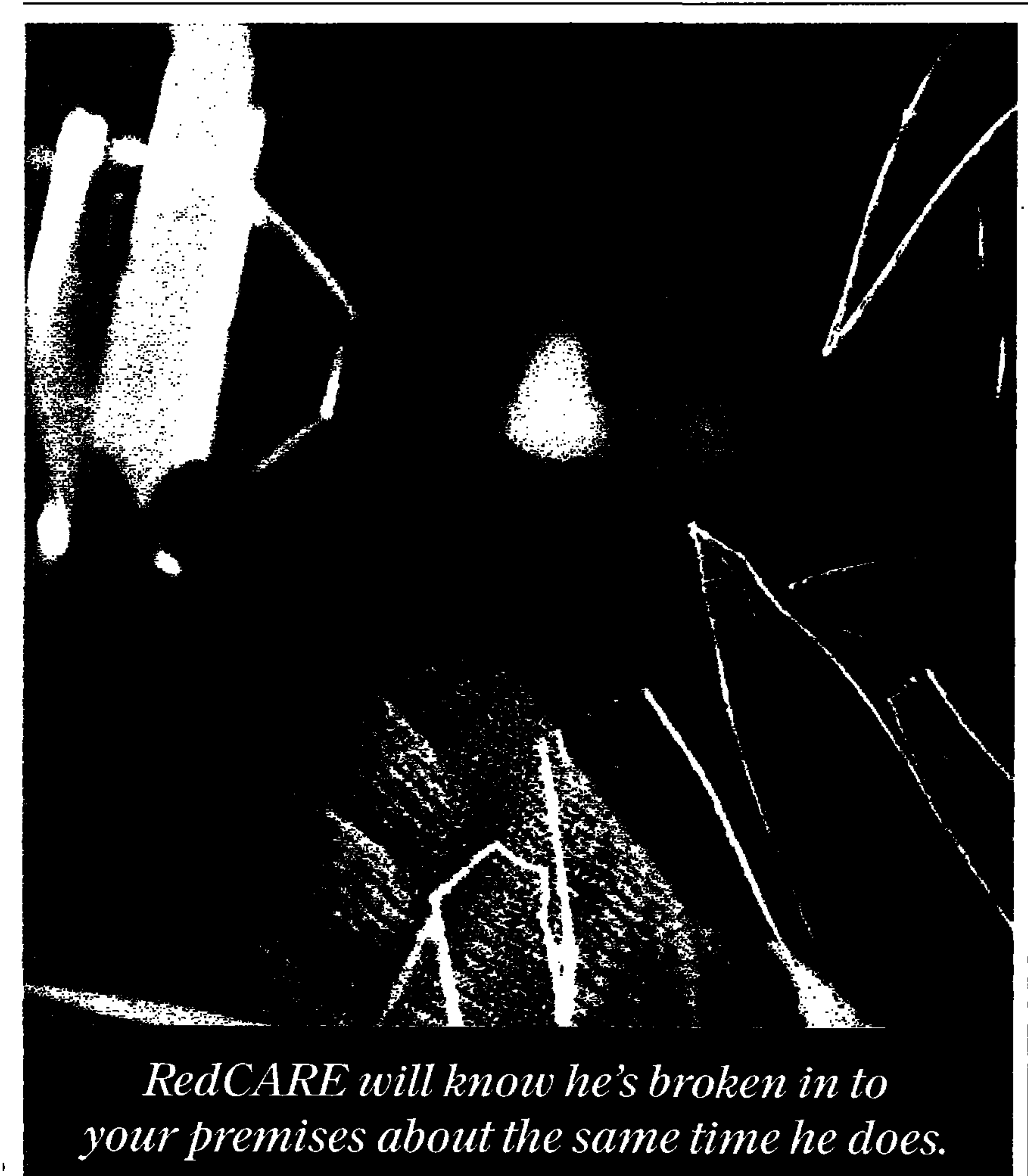
Energy and document management will be the subject of conference sessions alongside the broader issues of value for money and health and safety.

Companies like Ackermann, which offers total electrical systems, will exhibit alongside FM giants including AMEC Facilities and OCS.

Among new features at this year's show is an expanded alternative office conference, which will focus on new technologies as well as the cultural and social issues connected with nomadic working.

"The changing shape of the workplace impacts on everyone and FM Expo will allow managers a unique insight into how the workplace is changing and how to make the most of it," says Simon Parker, event manager for Miller Freeman, the show organiser.

A separate exhibition at Olympia this week, Construct IT, will provide an opportunity to view computer programs designed to help to manage building projects. "This will help to achieve our aim of organising features relevant not only to facilities managers but also to building designers and those responsible for running buildings when they are completed," Mr Parker adds.



RedCARE will know he's broken in to your premises about the same time he does.

He's an opportunist and he's willing to take a chance, because he knows that the majority of 'bells only' alarms are ignored. But not with RedCARE.

Within seconds of the break-in, RedCARE will have signalled the alarm to a monitoring service who will take action, without him even knowing about it.

RedCARE is the most secure alarm network available. It's a system which connects your alarm to a monitoring service, but unlike some systems, it's continuously checking the link, every second of every hour of every day. It will even detect a cut in the link and instantly transmit a signal so the alarm can be raised. RedCARE is only available direct from professional alarm companies.

For more information on how RedCARE can protect your business, contact your preferred alarm company or call BT on Freefone 0800 800 861 for a brochure.

RedCARE

For more information please call Freefone 0800 800 861 or visit us at www.redcare.bt.com. BT

MSc Facility & Environment Management at UCL

The course is directed to facility managers, architects, engineers, surveyors, management professionals and property administrators worldwide who wish to acquire a specialist qualification within the Facility Management field.

The course may be taken full-time (1 year) or part time (24 days September - March per year over 2 years). Applications for the September 1999 intake are now being considered.

For full details, please contact: The Graduate Clerk, The Bartlett School of Graduate Studies, University College London, Gower Street, London WC1E 6BT. Tel 0171 - 391 1738, fax 0171-813 2837, email bartlett.pgcclerk@ucl.ac.uk

CATCH 22
FACILITIES SUPPORT SERVICES

THE TOTAL SOLUTION TO YOUR FACILITIES SUPPORT PERSONNEL NEEDS

PERMANENT, CONTRACT AND TEMPORARY STAFF ACROSS THE FULL RANGE OF FM DISCIPLINES

INCLUDING SENIOR MANAGEMENT, PROJECT MANAGEMENT & BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

For more information, please contact Don Searle, Catch 22, 199 Victoria Street, London SW1E 5NE. Tel 0171 630 7419 Email 100142.3310@CompuServe.com Web www.c22.co.uk

Unlocking potential, adding value

Visit us on Stand 2D at the FM Expo, Olympia or contact us:

Tel: 0181 575 9205
E-mail: twfm@taywood.co.uk
Website: www.twc.co.uk

Facilities Management by



The Queen's Award for Export, Technological and Environmental Achievement 1999







HOW TO GET YOUR COMPANY NOTICED

On Wednesday 21st April The Times will publish a review on the award winners of The Queen's Awards for Export, Technological and Environmental Achievement.

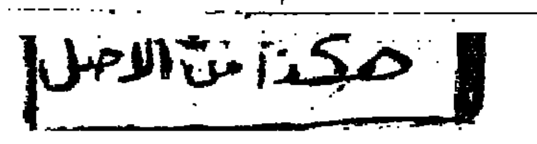
An advertisement in this Focus feature will enable your company to declare its achievements to over 1,904,000 readers.

The Times reaches over 216,000 business readers, more than any other quality daily newspaper, including the Financial Times.

For further information contact
CHRIS O'NEILL
BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT GROUP
TELEPHONE 0171 782 7936

THE TIMES

Source: NRS Sept 98 - Feb 99



A bug that need not be bigger than you are

Rodney Hobson on a scheme that helps small firms beat the millennium computer bug

Most big companies have the resources to tackle the millennium computer bug to ensure that their systems do not crash when the year ticks over to the dreaded double digit. Or they should have by now.

Small companies, however, are still finding it hard to come to terms with the potential disaster and even harder to find someone to help.

John Howell, chief executive of South London Training and Enterprise Council (Solotec), which has run highly successful workshops for small and medium businesses, thinks he knows why.

He says: "Where people who want to help small businesses make a mistake is that they start talking technology. We do not talk about computers, we talk about fundamental business issues. We put a building falling down on the front of our leaflets and asked, 'Do you want your business to fall down?'"

Training and enterprise councils were asked last July to target small businesses that were facing computer problems. Mr Howell says: "It came as a bolt from the blue. We had already started the financial year. But we had got the right people on board and we dedicated resources from day one."

> ‘Small companies find it even harder to get help’

Solotec found that the companies with greatest difficulties tended to be those with between 20 and 25 employees, big enough to have moved into computers comparatively early, when dates were stored as double digits, and big enough to have set up networks linking staff, suppliers and customers, but not big enough to have in-house expertise to tackle the millennium time bomb.

Solotec had already trained 136 small firms in South London by the end of January. A further 200 are now in training and 780 more have signed up for the workshops. Brian Harrison, Solotec's information technology and business manager, says that interest is still high.

Solotec carefully targeted small to medium-size businesses in an intensive campaign. These firms constitute more than 90 per cent of the business stock of the country and nearly half of Britain's gross domestic product.

Among those in the first batch for training was Geoffrey Gee, a one-man consultancy. He approached Solotec because he was anxious on two grounds: like others, he wanted to know whether his computers were 2000-compliant, and he was worried that he would lose contracts if he could not demonstrate that his computers would not crash or lose vital information in the new year.

Operating from an office at home in Bromley, South London, he specialises in education, accountancy and finance, as well as computing, and has clients ranging from the Cambridge Examination Board to local small businesses.

By the end of a three-day "assess and manage" course run by the Centre for Professional Development, he had tested his computers for 2000-compliance and leap-year compliance as well. The extra day next year, combined with the switch to 2000, is a potential extra hazard.

Mr Gee had carried out any necessary remedial tasks and developed a realistic action plan for handling suppliers and customers. He did have the advantage of a computer background, having spent much of his career building computer-based manpower planning models with the Central Electricity Generating Board.

He says that all 20 people on the course were able to cope with a little help. During the first two days, they learnt how to test computers using a floppy disc and were taken through the Eight Steps to Compliance, a checklist designed by Action 2000, the company set up by the Government to help and advise private sector businesses on how to tackle the millennium bug.

The course members then had a week to write an action plan for their own business which they presented to the group on their return. Successful completion of the course was rewarded by a certificate of competence.

Mr Gee says: "The workshop was most reassuring because it showed that the millennium bug is not a death sentence but perfectly manageable given the excellent information and resources pack that everyone gets."

The trainers were so impressed with Mr Gee they invited him to join them as a millennium bug trainer. He says: "It seemed appropriate to help others struggling with the bug as I was one of those who adopted what was then the standard practice of showing the date as two digits rather than four, the root of the millennium problem."



Geoffrey Gee with his millennium-compliant computer, thanks to Solotec

On a mission to improve facilities

Tony Dawe meets the man determined to highlight a forgotten tier of managers

The discipline of facilities management (FM) deserves to be treated in the commercial world just as seriously as marketing, sales and distribution, according to a retired general charged with giving the industry a higher profile.

Sir Antony Walker, the recently appointed director-general of the British Institute of Facilities Management, believes that the facilities manager should rank alongside the finance director and sales manager and be a candidate for the main board — at the moment, he is viewed as a minor figure responsible for cleaning and catering contracts.

Sir Antony is determined to change this. He wants to set standards for the FM industry and raise its status. "I believe that the facilities manager, whether working in-house or for a supplier, can do everything for a company except finance its deals and construct its buildings," he says.

His 35 years in the Army, mostly with the Royal Tank Regiment but culminating as Commandant of the Royal College of Defence Studies, has taught him the virtues of leadership, delegation and education. All three qualities will be evident in his new role, which he was invited to take up following his post-Services work for Aqumen, the facilities management arm of the Mowlem group.

He has inherited a "maturing" institute with an impressive membership of 200 companies and 5,500 individuals. He says: "We take a lot of pride in our rapid growth. What these statistics signify is the growth of the FM industry and the burgeoning influence of facilities managers across ever-wider parts of the property management business.

"We must do all we can to make sure their importance is recognised. The industry has had difficulty in finding an identity.

"Yet facilities managers within companies are playing an increasingly vital role and FM companies themselves are taking a lead in bidding for private finance initiatives."

Sir Antony: new role

The Government's policy of transferring risk associated with development from the public to the private sector, and the fact that many corporations now prefer to concentrate on their core activities have both contributed to the boom in the FM industry.

What it now needs, argues Sir Antony and his colleagues at the institute, are professional qualifications to underline the status of facilities managers.

He explains: "We are seeking to benchmark the industry by promoting a universally recognised qualification, the BIFM (Qual), which can be achieved by distance learning, attending accredited courses at universities and other places of higher education, and, in the case of seasoned practitioners, by presenting a portfolio of experience."

He admits that some members of the institute have been sceptical about its form — but adds: "I hope that eventually it will be recognised in the same way as FRICS is recognised as standard for chartered surveyors across the world.

"One of my aspirations is to see a job advertisement for a facilities manager which includes the words 'BIFM (Qual) essential'."

After education, delegation is the next item on Sir Antony's agenda. With the institute attracting so many members, he wants to reduce centralised administration and devolve power to nine regions, seven covering England and Wales, one in Scotland and one in Ireland.

"I am in favour of empowering them so that they become the engine room of the institute, working to policy directions from the centre," he says.

The regions already run an "astonishing" number of events. Typical is a conference arranged by the North region next month at the Birchwood Centre, Warrington, focusing on the role of FM in educational establishments. Experts on building maintenance, security and the use of space, together with speakers from universities old and new, including Durham and Sheffield Hallam, will take part.

As well as empowering the regions, Sir Antony is eager for the institute to "look down the other end of the telescope" and develop more active relationships with FM organisations in both Europe and North America.

In addition to setting new standards for the industry, Sir Antony has set two further targets for the institute: to play a greater role in enabling facilities managers to network and exchange ideas and information, and to lobby on behalf of the industry.

"I have just taken the institute into corporate membership of the CBI," he says, "and plan to give it a louder political voice. I believe it is vital to lobby to get this industry and the people working in it recognised for the important role they can play in the success of British business."

Harmony and tranquillity of inner space

For more than half the companies in Britain, the cost of providing desk space for staff is second only to the cost of paying them. Balancing these two vital interests, instead of letting the first dominate the second, is becoming an essential part of facilities management.

Saving small sums on property at the expense of upsetting and demotivating staff may actually cause a company to lose money, *Tony Dawe writes.*

In the cost-cutting past, calculating the price of Janet's bulky filing cabinet and Bill's extra large desk led to a vogue for saving space and money by cramming desks closer together while reducing "wasted" space like recreational areas.

Now FM experts recognise that staff don't like sitting in cramped conditions. They hate walking along corridors to share a copying machine, lose their tempers when bulky reference books are thrown out to save space and loathe not having per sonal desk and storage space.

As Peter Frost, the chief executive of OfficeSMART, says: "What is rarely taken into account is the cost of absenteeism, low morale and general inefficiency created by cramming employees into the drab and unattractive offices that cost-cutting has created.

"Nowadays people are more likely to work on projects and be multiskilled rather than working at a 'job' doing the same work all day. When they work in teams, the old office layout for process workers is inappropriate. In my own desk I have a cockpit with a concentration area facing the wall. When I want to talk to other people there is a collaboration area where I turn into the room and have a meeting. A lot of desks now have a bulb on the end where two or three seats can be fitted. This design creates a relaxed atmosphere and a spirit of openness instead of the old set-up where a manager had a desk and you confronted him across it."

A manager to supervise staff and ensure that they were not chatting or filing their nails, but he could not be sure they were making an effective contribution to the company.

Current thinking is to trust staff and give them a comfortable, unthreatening environment where they feel confident and valued. At the same time, office costs will continue to be analysed closely with less emphasis on traditional long-term ownership of individual work places. One answer is to make sure desks are designed with space efficiency in mind.

Atlas Business Furniture claims that its Centa units can save 40 per cent of floor space. "Most desks waste space either side of the computer," Darren Buttle, managing director, says.

"In our system, the PC sits snugly in the depth of the unit, opening up space for work papers in front. The idea is not to cram people into a small space but to make good use of all the space and create an attractive working environment."

Nigel Oseland, of The Consulting Business, believes that companies which design their facilities to increase productivity will beat those interested in providing only the bare minimum at the lowest cost.

The normal role of facilities managers might be to reduce office costs but he argues that if the facilities help a higher-paid employee, like a consultant or manager, to add 1 per cent to productivity this can result in another £1,000 earned by the company or pay half the annual cost of providing the employee accommodation.

"Facilities managers must balance cost, quality and performance," he says. "Costs can be compared against a national database to check value for money but quality requires assessing staff satisfaction and how and when space is used.

"High density can increase noise, cause distraction and reduce performance. One solution is to break the space into sections, providing quiet areas for concentrated work, where people can have fun, bounce ideas off each other and interact, and enclosed spaces where they can have confidentiality. Space efficiency does not mean just stacking and racking people."

OFFICE OF THE YEAR AWARDS

THE FACILITIES management team award takes precedence in this year's BIFM Office of the Year Awards, which are to be announced tonight.

The growing importance of FM in the design process has been acknowledged by the judges who have been "impressed by the contribution the teams have made to the success of so many of the projects submitted for consideration." The shortlists for other awards are:

■ *Purpose-built offices:* Oracle Corporation UK Limited, whose business helps clients to utilise and manage IT — it has grown from 400 employees 10 years ago to more than 4,500 today.

British Airways, whose Waterside complex of 51,000 square metres houses 2,800 British Airways staff, covering commercial, financial and strategic activities and customer services training, as well as its health centre.

■ Existing buildings: Railtrack plc, which took the strategic step of moving 800 staff from five premises into a single office — a vacant 15-storey 1970s single core tower building, in front of Euston mainline station, provided the ideal opportunity.

United Distillers & Vintners, whose 1970s offices in Borron Street, Glasgow, had been largely untouched save for a refurbishment in 1986 — the building was treated as a greenfield site for its transformation.

Thomas Cook Direct, which needed to expand its travel agency call-centre service, and found a warehouse in Falkirk, owned by the local authority, right for its purpose.

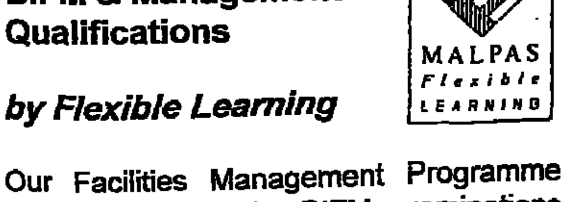
■ Smaller offices: Interface Europe Ltd, which redeveloped its site at Shelf, near Halifax, West Yorkshire.

Overbury plc, which consolidated its three offices on to one site in a 1960s building.

There are two other awards that will be announced tonight: the Green award and the Innovation award.

CHRISTOPHER WARMAN

Who would YOU like on YOUR side?



Support Services Division

Managed Services - Cleaning - Security
Engineering Maintenance - Catering

www.mitie.co.uk 07000 648434

BIFM & Management Qualifications

MALPAS Flexible LEARNING

by Flexible Learning

Our Facilities Management Programme prepares you for the BIFM examinations and gives you the option to gain an Advanced Certificate in Management at the same time.

- Less time off work
- Open Learning Workbooks
- Tutor support

For those who cannot make it to our tutorials in London or Dartford, a home study route is available. You may start at any time.

MALPAS FLEXIBLE LEARNING LTD
Woodlands, 79 High Street, Greenhithe, Kent DA9 9NL

Tel: 01322 381334
or Fax: 01322 381335
email: admin@malpas.co.uk
web site: www.malpas.co.uk

MFL210





Two Facilities Managers had to install an access control system. Guess which one chose 'Emit'.

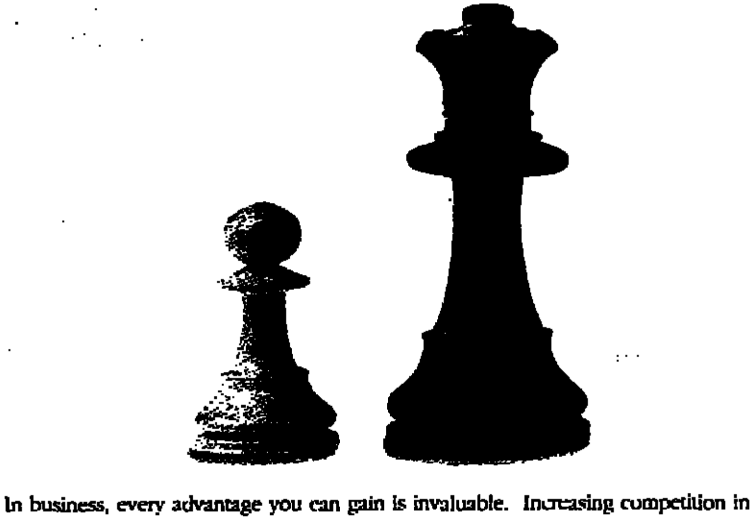
Installing, or expanding, an access control system always means causing a lot of damage to the fabric of a building. And it is matched only by the hassle it creates for the Facilities Manager.

Not anymore. Emit is the total access control system that's as simple to install as fitting a lock. See it in action on the Allgood stand at FM Expo 99.

You'd be mad to miss it.

Allgood Secure ☎ 0870 609 0009 emit @ allgood

UNFAIR ADVANTAGE?



In business, every advantage you can gain is invaluable. Increasing competition in local and international markets is rapidly changing the way businesses operate. A growing number of top corporates have identified how to gain an unfair advantage to be more *flexible*, more in control and *increase shareholder value*.

Johnson Controls, the world's leading facilities and property management company is helping to give an unfair business advantage to a growing number of top corporates including Barclays Bank GPS, BP, Esso and IBM.

How? By delivering innovative property and facilities support solutions to ensure that the places where you work are geared to meet strategic business objectives. The net result will not only allow you to concentrate on your core business, but can also save up to 25% on your company's biggest overhead after staff costs.

Johnson Controls IFM is the world's leading facilities and property management company. It manages more than 1.2 billion square feet of property for clients in over 40 countries. Isn't it time they were talking to you?

For more information, contact Guy Holden or Ian Fielder on 01705 230 500

JOHNSON CONTROLS

TO ADVERTISE CALL 0171 680 6111

BUSINESS TO BUSINESS

FAX: 0171 782 7827

BUSINESS FOR SALE

ALUMINIUM can making machinery for beer and soft drinks for sale with funding. Tel: 0181 813 1066 Fax: 0181 813 0302.

INTERNET/MULTIMEDIA Systems Co. Operate in Gov'nt/Councils/Corp. 98 T/O £250k, profitable. Old tax losses. Box No 5814

LONDON based specialist print / distribution company. Turnover in excess of £2.5m. Owner nearing retirement, wishes to sell or merge. Reply to box no. 5817

Model Railway Shop
Extensive Model Shop selling trains, slot cars and kits through shop and mail order. Turnover around £700k with respectable profits. Good quality leased premises in southern county.
£120,000 + sav
Please respond to box number 5835

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

1999...Exit the Rat Race, P/F Time, Proven, Home Based Business £1000-£10,000 Per Month. Tel: 01179 819 164 (24 Hrs).

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

AMBITIOUS? Looking for a home based business? Call and just listen. 0171 806 7688 (24Hrs)

AN INCREDIBLE invention proven to cut electricity costs by up to 40%. Manufacturer seeks UK & overseas distributors/ representation for this top quality, high tech product with amazing customer demand. Tel: 01872 223000 (Fax: 264226) for info-pack or visit www.somar.co.uk

AMAZING, proven business £1000-£10,000 per month, p/t time from home. 0118 9287675.

ARE you seeking financial independence? Earn £2k-£5k p/m from home ft/pt. Intl Bus. 01524 459164 24hrs.

IDEA OR INVENTION?
FOR FREE INFORMATION PACK CALL
0171 • 436 • 1127 DEPT TB2
America's leading product development company
INTERNATIONAL PRODUCT DESIGN
1 Harley Street, London W1N 1DA

ARE you winking past a fortune? Start your business now. Tel 01254 249316

AT Last!!! Earn £2k-£10kpm. F/T, P/T from home. Call our BT 90 sec mess 01203 289157

BE a stop-smoking therapist and earn £85 every 2hr session. Set-up fee £850 (recovered 1st wk). Recorded info: 0181 621 1210

CONTACTS in India? Unmissable opportunity launched in Bangalore. 0181 387 8285 (24hr).

START your own business running sales training and management. Full details 01635 552151.

I'M STINKING RICH!
Working Smart Instead Of Hard Has Given Me Ferraris, Rollers & Big Homes
Why Not Get Stinking Rich Too? If YOU Really Want To Make Big Money, Give Me A Call.
PS. If You Have A Degree, Keep It To Yourself
(0700 561 84 88)

FLOOD damaged unrated houses. All have been dried out. Due to recent storms we have been instructed to sell a number of freehold properties in prime positions, ideal for renting, or for resale. £10,000 freehold, resale valuation £35,000. Guaranteed tenancies, full management service. Harlington Properties 0161 796 1411.

INTERNET & Telecoms. Your own f/t or p/t mktg business in these enormous growth sectors. V significant financial potential. Min start up costs. Freephone: 0500 011801 Freefax: 0500 011802

LIQUIDATIONS RECEIVERSHIPS: AUCTIONS:
200+ liquidations & receiverships listed every week, what they did & who to contact + commercial auctions.
BUSINESSES FOR SALE
Monthly list of over 100+ different businesses & property opportunities.
CONTACT
Tel 01652 680889
Fax 01652 680867

PROFIT from premium rate numbers and the Internet, two separate business opportunities from £795. 0121 551 3399 or 0800 542 9334.

UK EXPANSION 5 yr old Int'l Networking Co. seeks Key individuals for UK growth. Work with #1 income earner + 1st distributor in comp. Call 01628 597 600

LOANS & INVESTMENT

NON Status mortgages & loans + bridging & small development finance. Commercial/ residential. Investment props, CCJ's, arrears, no income proof, no age limit, IVA + Discharged bankrupt. E.F.S. 01772 682591

BRIDGING LOANS
Secured on Residential & Commercial property for any purpose
Min £25,500
Principal Lender
Bristol & West Investments Plc
(0117) 970 2703
9 Eclipse Office Park
Bristol BS16 5EL

LOANS & INVESTMENT

£1 million min. funding on Commercial, Industrial & nursing homes. Prime rates. Hirsch Inc. 0171 222 4586 Fax: 0171 799 3350

FAST PAYOUT
SHORT TERM LOANS
NON-STATUS
RAISE CAPITAL OR BUY PROPERTY
PRINCIPAL LENDER
LATYMER FUNDING
IMMEDIATE DECISIONS
0181 905 7777

NON STATUS REMORTGAGE AND LOANS
2 MINUTE DECISION, ANY PURPOSE.
NO PROOF OF INCOME.
INTEREST ONLY PLANS.
CCJ'S NO PROBLEM.
REPAY 3-25 YEARS. NO AGE LIMIT.
7 DAYS 8am-8pm
0800 262135
Weaver Valley Estates, 16 Connaught Street, London W2 2AF

BUSINESS Loans. £15K-£2M. Raise capital loaned against... vehicles, machinery, equip. Principal lenders offer finance to new & estab businesses, CVA's & MBO's. 0115 987 6766 No upfront fees.

BUSINESS SERVICES

LORRAINE ELECTRONICS
SPY SHOP
PHONE FOR A
CATALOGUE
0181 558 4226

First-Division Swiss football club is looking for investors to finance the acquisition of transfer rights and the modernisation of the stadium.

A co-operation agreement can be negotiated, co-determination rights guaranteed. Investments are sought in the range from SFr. 5 million upwards.

Replies please to this box number: AA 514
An Publicitas AG, Postfach 4070, 6002 Luzern

BUSINESS SERVICES

QLA PERFORMANCE
Personal Coaching · Corporate Coaching · Seminars

Most people believe that Personal Coaching is an unaffordable dream.

It doesn't have to be that way - anymore!

Take your life to a new level with a QLA Tailor-made Coaching Programme.

QLA's personal clients have enjoyed - Income Increases of upto 500% · Achieved amazingly low golf handicaps · Incredible life turnarounds · New levels of personal and professional success and fulfilment

QLA NOW!
Tel ... Fax ... E-mail ...
Website ...

BUSINESS SERVICES

DOMAIN name registration for business internet from £95+VAT, inc all fees. Tel: 0114 221 7731. Fax: 0114 221 7732.

A business address in the most prestigious locations. Telephone answering in your company name, fax & secretarial services. Plus fully equipped offices by the day in 220 locations worldwide, including 60 centres in the UK. Call Regus: 0500 522 533.

HELP! Available for companies. Debt / insolvency advice, finance. Allengrove Consultants 01934 632640

HARLEY Street prestigious business centre. Luxury furnished, service offices, business address, telephone, fax & email address. Free message taking & handling of mail. Boardroom, offices for hire. In addition we have 1300 sq ft. open plan space in Bloomsbury Square WC1, ground floor office, main front door entrance, alarm. Phone 0171 637 5505 email 12harley@compuserve.com.

PAYSLIPS / P60's computer generated fast, reliable, confidential service. Tel: 0116 271 8808.

DISTRIBUTORS & AGENTS

AGENTS / Distributors required to help other people with minimal outlay, good discount margins & excellent product; one vacancy per region for more information, please call Lyon Tel: 0171 692 0624 Fax: 0171 692 0628.

WHOLESALERS

AIRLINE surplus stock, Very large quantity, including Royal Doulton china, first class amenity kits etc. circa 80 product lines. £50,000. Elaine 0181 568 6218

TENDERS AND CONTRACTS

FALKLAND ISLANDS GOVERNMENT

APPOINTMENT OF CONSTRUCTION PARTNER

The Falkland Islands Government wishes to enter into an arrangement with a reputable and suitably experienced construction company which is capable of assisting the Government with the implementation of its programme of capital and other construction projects which is anticipated to have a value of 5-8 million pounds per annum. Further detailed information relating to this opportunity together with a prequalification form can be obtained from either -

(a) The Secretary to the Tender Board, Secretariat, Stanley, Falkland Islands. Tel: (00500) 27242 Fax: (00500) 27109 e-mail: govsec.fig@horizon.co.fk

OR

(b) The Falkland Islands Government Office, 14 Broadway, Westminster, London, SW1H 0BH Tel: (0171) 222 2542 Fax: (0171) 222 2375 e-mail: rep@figo.u-net.com.

Prequalification forms and other documentation will be issued upon payment of a £25 deposit returnable upon submission of a properly completed form to either of the above addresses on or before 7 May 1999.

TEL: 0171 680 6111
FAX: 0171 782 7827

FRANCHISING IN THE 90s

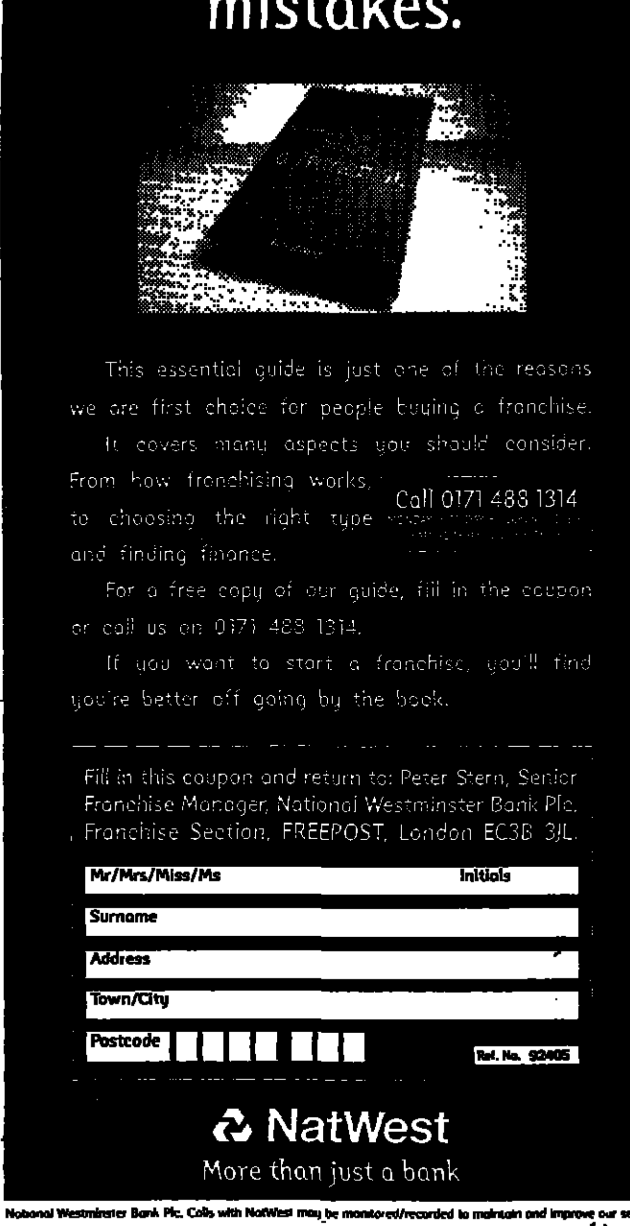
To Co-incide with the Wembley Franchise Exhibition

The UK's Capital Franchise Exhibition!
◆ OVER 150 EXHIBITORS ◆
LONDON 16th & 17th April, Wembley

Also at Glasgow 25th & 26th June, SECC
Supported by
BRITISH FRANCHISE ASSOCIATION · FranchiseWorld · Daily Mail

24 Hr Information and Ticket Hotline: 01280 707433
Website: www.franinfo.co.uk

This free guide could prevent costly mistakes.



National Westminster Bank Plc. Calls with NatWest may be monitored/recorded to maintain and improve our service.

EXCITING new print and copy franchise opportunity. Exclusive territories, full training, support and equipment. Investment level £21K. Earning potential £100K + PA. Tel: Zippi Print on Demand on 0181 577 7170

YACHTING /boating revolutionary fibreglass cleaning franchises. High returns. 01603 627 294. Mon-Fri 9-5. Ref GRP.

TRAVEL Agency Franchise. Unit and area franchises available. £45,000 to £125,000 plus working capital. Call UNIGLOBE 01892 507 800.

D'VINE wine. Franchises now available in St Albans, Herts & area. Make your own wine in our premises with accessories store. Tel (01727) 833122 for details.

The search for your own executive business ends here

Unemployment is currently the lowest for almost 20 years; distinct skill shortages exist in most areas. Companies are constantly struggling to hire the best candidates. Humana can make the difference.

- There has never been a better time to build your own **executive recruitment** company.
- In the past two years Humana have expanded by 71 offices to 145 offices in 20 countries, a world leading pace.
- Our success is based on the combination of the experience and sector knowledge of Humana franchise owners and our proven methodology and comprehensive training and support.
- You will have to look long and hard to find a better way to building your own exciting, stimulating and profitable business.

Contact: Kevin Cox 01753 740020
Come and see us at the British Franchise Exhibition at Wembley - Stand A12.

THE WINNING SPORTS FRANCHISE
- Weekend trading only
- £100k stock, £20-30k fixtures & fittings, £40k working capital
- Low rental premises
- Training and support
- Sales in excess of £1 million per year
- Sites available in England, Scotland, Wales & Ireland

Contact David Hastings for further information
01623 428197

SANDWICH & COFFEE FRANCHISE

Do you like the idea of serving people and motivating a team of young staff to help you make a success of your own business? All under the umbrella of a fast growing sandwich and gourmet coffee franchise chain with over 40 stores open from Glasgow to Plymouth. Comprehensive training and practical help. Specialist site selection. On-site support and advice. Extensive marketing programme.

If you want to build a multi-unit business in a fun, customer focussed organisation and have liquid capital of £35,000 (total investment c.£70k), please write to:

24 South William Street,
Dublin 2, Ireland.
UK Freephone: 0800 973 888
Web site: www.obriens.ie

O'Briens Irish Sandwich Bar

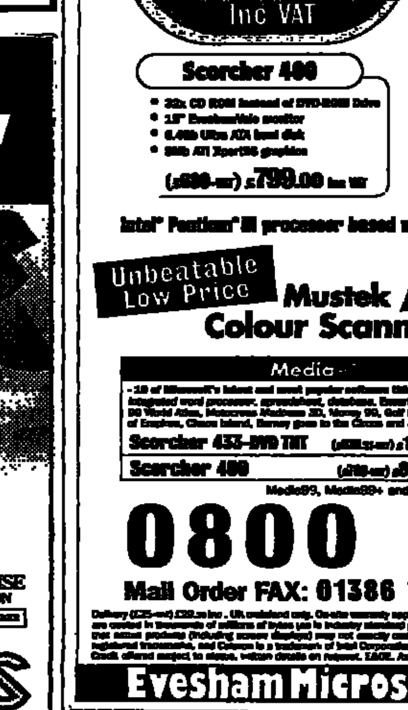


COMPUTERS & COMPUTING SERVICES

"BEST BUY"

intel inside celeron

The current issue of Computer Shopper includes a group test of 12 PCs from leading suppliers... the EveshamVale Scorcher 433 ... "Best Buy" award ahead of the competition from the likes of Gateway, Dell, Time and Viglen.




£999 Inc VAT

Scorcher 433-DVD TNT
- Intel® Celeron™ processor 433MHz
- Genuine Intel® motherboard with 440ZX AGPset
- 64Mb SDRAM
- 8.4Gb hard disk
- 16Mb RIVA TNT 2D/3D graphics accelerator
- 17" EveshamVale/MAG monitor
- 4.8x DVD-ROM drive
- 56k v.90 voice capable PCI modem
- 64 voice Soundblaster PCI wavetable sound
- Zy-Fi amplified speakers

Scorcher 400
- 32x CD ROM instead of DVD-ROM Drive
- 15" EveshamVale monitor
- 6.4Gb Ultra ATA hard disk
- 8Mb ATI XpertXX graphics

£799.00 inc VAT

Intel® Pentium® III processor based models also available...

Unbeatable Low Price **Mustek A4 Colour Scanner** (£42.51 ex VAT) £49.95 inc VAT

Media99, Media99+ and Office available from Evesham Micros only.

0800 496 0800

Mail Order FAX: 01386 769795 Full range free brochure available

Evesham Micros
Visit one of our showrooms at:
Vale Park, EVESHAM
Kings Norton, BIRMINGHAM
5 Glisson Road, CAMBRIDGE
320 Witan Gate, MILTON KEYNES
Gloucester Court, Gloucester Terrace, LEEDS
Promenade Road, Dublin Port, DUBLIN

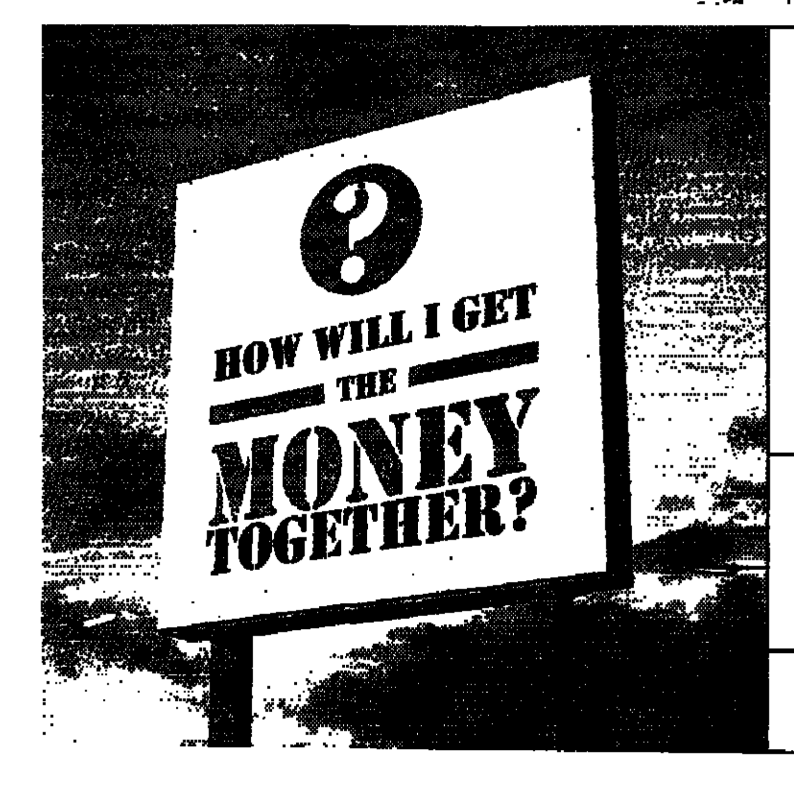
Now Available from* STAPLES The Office Superstore
Call: 0800 14 14 14 for your nearest store
Ashford, Ashton-Under-Lyne, Aston Cross, Basingstoke, Beckton, Bolton, Bournemouth, Bradford, Bristol, Cambridge, Canterbury, Cardiff, Cardiff Bay, CARLISLE (NEW), Chatham, Chelmsford, Colchester, Croydon, Doncaster, Exeter, Hanley, High Wycombe, Huddersfield, Hull, Ipswich, Leeds, Milton Keynes, Northampton, Norwich, Nottingham, Oldbury, Poole, Reading, Redditch, Rotherham, Salford, Sheffield, Southampton, South Yardley, Staples Corner, Stockport, Stockton-On-Tees, Sunderland, Swansea, Telford, Truro, Warrington, Wakefield, West Bromwich, Willenhall

*Subject to Staples terms and conditions available in store

Evesham Micros Web: http://www.evesham.com

FRANCHISING IN THE 90s

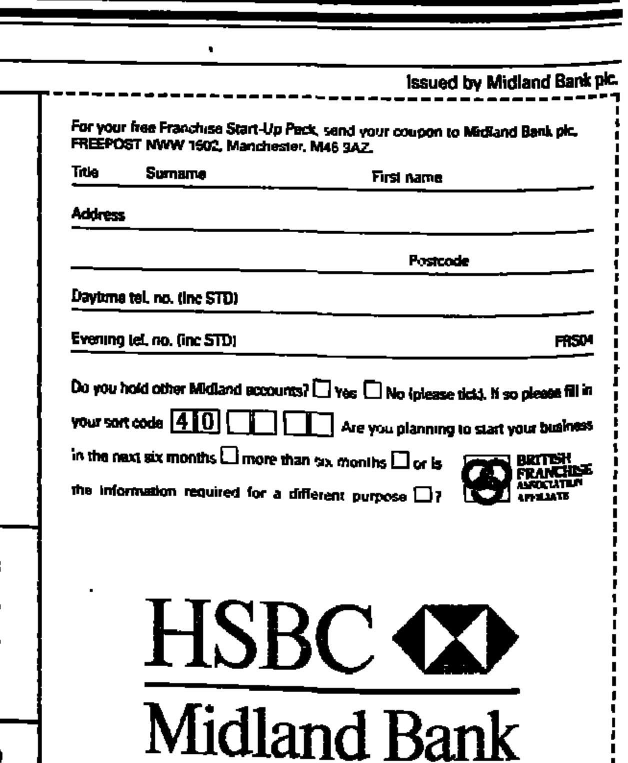
Issued by Midland Bank plc.



Choosing a franchise raises some serious questions. Our free pack helps you answer them.

You can choose the right franchise. You just need to be fully armed with all the facts. Look into the company's background. Research the competition. Talk to some existing franchisees. Find out if they encountered any difficulties starting up and learn from their experience. Our Franchise Start-Up Pack is filled with useful suggestions like these along with practical guidance in the form of a booklet and video. **Call us for your free pack.**

Let's sort money out 0345 40 41 42



Let chain take the strain for rich pickings

Take the right precautions and franchising can prove highly rewarding, says **Henrietta Lake**

Look down any high street and there will be a string of successful franchises, from Kall Kwik to Snappy Snaps or Domino's Pizza, which have provided their founders with juicy financial rewards and one of the quickest ways to expand their businesses.

But entrepreneurs looking for growth need to be aware that a successful business does not necessarily make a prize-winning franchise.

Before taking the plunge and setting up a franchise operation, owners need to think carefully about how franchising would suit their company culture as well as its products or services.

"Any business which is capable of being run as a branch network should at least think about franchising," says Brian Duckett, of Horwath Franchising, a consultancy.

"To turn a business into a booming franchise it has to be capable of being easily replicated. For example, premises should be simple to find and capable of being fitted quickly. The process must also be easily learnt; it has to be possible to train someone how to operate the business relatively quickly, even if they do not have experience in the field.

Franchises work only if they are profitable for both parties. Low-margin businesses need not apply.

Chantal d'Orthez founded Brush & Bisque-It, where customers draw their own designs on blank pottery, just 18 months ago. She already has three franchises in London, each turning over about £120,000, and plans to open an average of ten a year in the UK, until there are 30, and then expand into Europe.

"The Brush & Bisque-It concept was just perfect for franchising; a streamlined operation, which was easy to run, with low overheads, high margins and a fun atmosphere to work in," she explained.

Businesses ripe for franchise must have a distinctive image that is fully owned. "It sounds obvious," said Mr Duckett, "but some businesses start considering franchising when they have not even trademarked their name. You cannot license other people to use your name unless you have the sole rights to it first."

The firm also needs to be proven and to be capable of growth in the medium term and the long term. Established businesses, rather than just good ideas, make the best franchises. Experts recommend setting up several fully-owned pilot operations before launching a franchise network.

Throttleman, the Portuguese menswear retailer that boasts the world's biggest and most colourful range of boxer shorts, is using franchising to expand its operation in the UK. It has 35 stores in Europe and has set up fully-owned stores in the Kings Road, West London, Broadgate Circle and the Bluewater shopping centre in Kent, while another is scheduled to open in Regent Street in London in June.

Bruno Guerbi, manager of the UK operation, said: "It was important to make sure we had the formula right in the UK first before franchising. However, it has proved successful and we plan to have 30 franchises in total in the UK. But we don't want to expand too quickly, we need to find the right franchisees and plan to open six this year."

There are numerous government and EU grants and loans available to both franchisees and franchisors. However, Mr Duckett is sceptical, and says: "If you need a grant, you don't have the money to franchise."

The drive to franchise and having the right product must be backed by cash. Franchising consultancy fees range between £5,000 and £10,000. Add to this lawyers' and accountants' charges of about £3,500 and the marketing cost of recruiting franchisees, which averages about £6,000 per franchise.

On top of this, a company must ask itself whether its culture would lend itself to franchising. "This is where most franchises fall down," said Mr Duckett. "It is all about a mutually supportive relationship. You can't treat franchisees like branch managers and expect them to automatically do as they are told."

Senhor Guerbi said: "Franchisees are not employees, but business partners and must be managed accordingly. You need to work hard to maintain the right relationships."

Tony Mundella, of Baker Tilly, the accountancy practice, recommends that the exact division of roles and responsibilities between the franchisor and the franchisees be identified early on.

There is plenty of advice and training available for franchisors, from companies such as Horwath Franchising and Baker Tilly, on how to manage the relationship with their franchisees.

They say that it is a delicate role — combining policeman and mentor — and advise franchisors to portray themselves as personal business consultants to their franchisees.

Horwath Franchising: 0171-917 9824; Baker Tilly: 0181-754 9695.

☐ *The British Franchise Exhibition is taking place on April 16-17 at Wembley Conference Centre in London. For information or tickets call 01280 707433.*

LINKS

WEBSITE: www.franinfo.co.uk



Bruno Guerbi, manager of Throttleman's UK operation, says 30 franchises are planned

IN BRIEF

Scottish firms unconvinced on independence

■ Most Scottish small businesses are against independence, according to a survey by the lobby group the Forum of Private Business.

With only a month to go before elections for the Scottish parliament, 67 per cent of the 540 businesses surveyed said that they did not agree with independence.

Meanwhile, 47 per cent feared it would be bad for their own operations, with 29 per cent saying that it would make little difference. Less than one in six thought that independence would be good for their firm.

Gerry Dowd, Scottish director at the FPB, said: "Many small and medium-sized businesses still see the new parliament as another layer of bureaucracy and it will have to earn its spurs quickly by demonstrating that it can listen to the needs of small firms."

■ **Small businesses could receive up to £45,000 in prize money for coming up with innovative ways to improve the running of their companies. The awards are part of a new initiative by the Regional Development Agency for London, known as the London Development Partnership, to improve the information technology skills of small businesses in the region. For further information telephone 0171-248 5555.**

■ Business owners are losing money by failing to claim all the tax breaks to which they are entitled, according to Mazar Neville Russell, the accountants. Although most claim tax relief for cars and other vehicles, few realise that they can do the same for their office buildings and machinery. For a copy of a handbook on how to find the money hidden inside the company walls, telephone 01273 206788.

■ Learning how to take the heat will mean getting into the kitchen for managers on a new training course. Ready Steady Train puts business people in a kitchen and forces them to prepare banquets in teams, and on time. Ready Steady Train is demonstrating its novel techniques at the Human Resources Development Week exhibition at Olympia in London this week. For more information call 01256 818811.

MEGAPHONE

MARK ROY, managing director of direct marketing firm the REaD Group, based in Sevenoaks, Kent, says the mountain of junk mail will grow if companies like his are not allowed to use the electoral roll.

"The Data Protection Registrar is considering proposals to ban the marketing industry from using the electoral roll for commercial purposes. This will not only halve my turnover overnight and severely hamper the industry, but it will mean that the public will receive ten times more direct mail, which they do not want.

"My company uses the electoral roll to update other firms' databases and last year we stopped 19 million wrongly directed mailshots going to out-of-date addresses.

"The Government must be made to see that they will be making things worse if they go ahead with this proposal."



Roy: junk mail fear

☐ *Any company wishing to express a view in Megaphone should contact In Business.*

Olympian leads team to attain new goals

Skills learnt on the sports field have powered a firm from its start in a garage six years ago to £20m turnover

IF PROOF were needed that a sportsman's judgment and motivation skills can lead to success off the pitch, then Richard Leman is your man.

Mr Leman, an entrant in the Entrepreneur of the Year competition, captained the gold-winning British hockey team at the 1988 Seoul Olympics and has 227 international hockey caps. He now runs Olympian Consulting, an information technology recruitment company, which turned over £20 million last year.

The company, based in East Grinstead, West Sussex, and employing 112, provides contract and permanent IT workers for clients including the BBC, Debenhams and GEC.

Mr Leman said: "Every day at Olympian, I use the skills in motivating and building teams that I learnt on the hockey field. I believe that much of the company's success is about positive mental attitude. We have a saying here that winning is a habit. I operate a performance-based culture in which people are given the flexibility to demonstrate their skills, which makes the company grow faster."

He talks to all new employees about his aim for Olympian and how they can take an active role in decision-making. "It means we are all pointing in the same direction and we achieve more," he said.

The inclusive approach seems to work. This year's turnover target is £50 million. It may seem ambitious, but is based on an impressive record. Mr Leman admits that the IT recruitment market is booming, growing 25 per cent each year, but Olympian has grown annually by between 120 and 233 per cent for four years.

Mr Leman set up the business six years ago in a friend's garage with a £7,000 loan from his mother. It took him seven months to win his first customer — just when he was close to giving up. "I worked through Christmas and new year in that first year," Mr Leman said. "I remember Daley Thompson saying he trained on Christmas Day because he thought it would give him an an extra 2 per cent on his decathlon rival. This extra 2 per cent is what I encourage my staff to strive for."

Employees are appraised quarterly, with clear goals being agreed. "I give my sales people the tools to do the job and the freedom to steer their own career path," Mr Leman said.

In its first three years, Olympian reinvested all profits in developing a database that Mr Leman sees as a key to its success, along with being more discriminating that some rivals in the candidates that it submits to clients. He said: "I invest in administration and back-up before ploughing money into the selling and recruiting departments. I cannot afford to let down clients by being ineffective in responding to requests. I am constantly surprised that many businessmen I speak to don't seem to have similar priorities."

HENRIETTA LAKE

ROY RILEY



Richard Leman says his hockey years help him in business



☐ *Application forms for Entrepreneur of the Year are available on 0845-604 1012. Entrepreneurs can nominate themselves or be nominated. Applications must be in by April 30.*



WEBSITE: www.eoy.co.uk

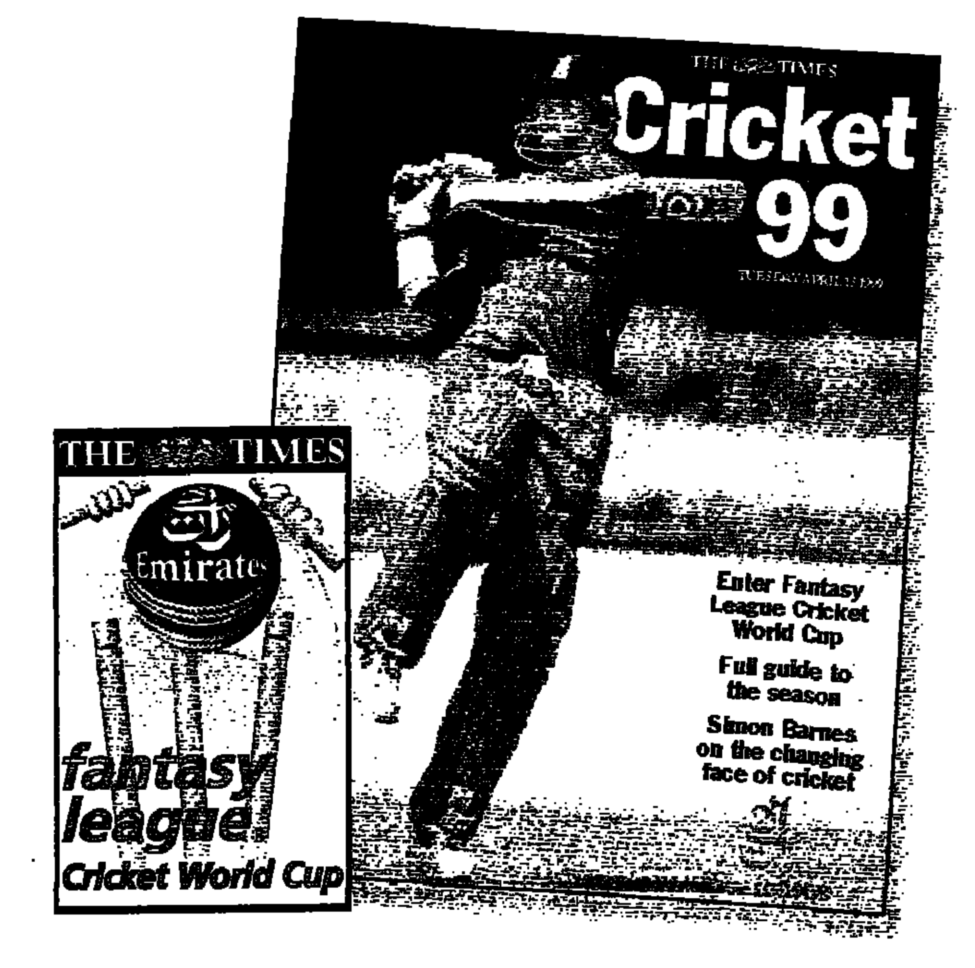
IN BUSINESS IS EDITED BY HENRIETTA LAKE
henrietta.lake@the-times.co.uk



THE TIMES

£38,000 WORTH OF EMIRATES FLIGHT TICKETS TO BE WON

PLAY FANTASY LEAGUE CRICKET WORLD CUP



SEE THE 16-PAGE CRICKET SUPPLEMENT FREE WITH THIS PAPER

CHANGING TIMES

NEWS

Passenger train hit in Nato raid

■ Nato admitted last night that a missile attack on a railway bridge south of Belgrade had struck a passenger train. At least nine people were reported to have been killed and another 16 injured.

The Yugoslav Army and local authorities in Serbia searched for survivors amid the wreckage of the train, which was hit in a ravine near the Macedonian border. "We deeply regret any loss of life," a Nato official said........................Reports, pages 1, 4-7

Truck drivers to escalate protest

■ Lorry drivers threatened fresh disruption after a nationwide protest which jammed motorways and roads in six city centres. Growing anger among lorry drivers over tax rises prompted the second major protest in three weeks, with farmers and taxi drivers joining the demonstration in some areas......Pages 1, 2

IRA 'tested missiles'

The British and Irish governments today resume their last-ditch effort to save the Good Friday accord with Unionists claiming the case for disarmament has been strengthened by new evidence that the IRA has tested surface-to-air missiles..............Page 2

Kwik-Fit in £1bn deal

Only two days ago, Sir Tom Farmer was listed in *The Sunday Times* Rich List as the 315th wealthiest man in Britain. By lunchtime yesterday he had leapfrogged at least 50 places by selling his Kwik-Fit tyre and exhaust chain to the Ford motor company in a £1 billion deal.............Page 3

Tapioca cancer quest

The plant from which tapioca pudding is made may hold the key to a powerful anti-cancer cure. Genes isolated from the plant have been used successfully to eradicate brain tumours in laboratory rats.................Page 9

Doctor 'left scene'

A village GP left the scene of an attempted suicide, in which a man stabbed himself in the throat, telling relatives to stanch the blood, the General Medical Council was told..............Page 9

Fish ban to aid birds

North Sea sand eel fishing is facing a seasonal ban because of a dramatic decline in birdlife at key nesting sites....................Page 10

Did Jesus eat meat?

The question of whether Christ was a vegetarian is stirring debate among Americans after the People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) recruited Jesus in a campaign to stop the slaughter of animals.......Page 11

SNP fails in Scotland

Labour believes an outright majority in the Scottish parliament is now within its grasp after a disastrous election campaign performance by the Scottish National Party. Ministers were "cock-a-hoop" over a series of devastating poll results for the SNP leader Alex Salmond.......Page 12

Welsh power push

Wales should aim for its own tax-raising and law-making powers, Plaid Cymru said at the launch of its manifesto for the Welsh assembly.................................Page 12

Bankruptcy boom

Increasing numbers of young people are declaring themselves bankrupt after building up thousands of pounds of debt on credit cards and in student loans, according to the Citizens Advice Bureau...................................Page 13

German train crash

Germany's reputation as a nation of engineering giants was seriously damaged when one of the world's safest trains crashed, killing three people and leaving 59 others badly injured.......Page 15

Prodi hails the perk-free express

■ Romano Prodi, the incoming President of the European Commission, arrived at Downing Street in a London taxi cab. The frugality of Signor Prodi, in London for talks on Europe, was further illustrated by his choice of a £351 one-way business-class British Airways flight from Rome to Gatwick, and his £10.20 ticket to Victoria on the Gatwick Express..........Page 12

KIERAN DOHERTY / REUTERS



A 16th-century prayer book is among 250 items in the Rothschild art collection soon to be auctioned at Christie's. Looted by the Nazis, the £25 million collection was only recently returned by the Austrian Government but is for sale because the family cannot afford the upkeep

BUSINESS

Goldman payout: The 11 most senior directors of Goldman Sachs are to share a total of $1.3 billion (£800 million) under the terms of the Wall Street investment bank's flotation..............................Page 27

Freeserve float: Dixons said it was considering a stock market flotation of a minority stake in its free Internet service provider.......Page 27

Rate cuts: Halifax and Abbey National cut their mortgage rates by 0.1 per cent following the decision by the Bank of England to cut interest rates by 0.25 per cent...Page 27

Markets: The FTSE 100 index fell 31.6 points to 6441.2. The pound rose 0.92 cents to $1.6150 but fell 0.07p against the euro to 67.18p. The sterling index rose to 102.7 from 102.6...............................Page 30

SPORT

Sport on television: The Grand National beat the Masters golf, Five Nations rugby union and Formula One to attract the biggest audience of the weekend's plethora of leading sporting events............Page 52

Rugby union: After a thrilling final Five Nations Championship, David Hands has selected a team from the tournament's most shining performers...............................Page 50

Cricket: The final county championship season, before the competition makes one of its biggest transformations and is split into two divisions, begins today..............................Page 49

Football: Sunderland and Fulham, who may clinch promotion from their respective divisions tonight, have followed contrasting routes to success...............................Page 47

ARTS

Big Screen USA: The hippest, hottest new Hollywood release is *Go*, a taut, funny, bad-attitude movie from Doug Liman that American critics have dubbed *Pulp Fiction Lite*...................................Page 34

Treasure hunt: Many museums and art galleries are beginning an exhaustive trawl through their collections for works plundered by Hitler's henchmen.....................Page 35

Camp contender: In North London the energetic self-parodying musical *Escape From Pterodactyl Island* makes its bid for the *Rocky Horror* cult show crown....Page 35

Festival fare: Rodney Milnes reports from Berlin on the city's ten-day feast of music-making, the Festtage; plus the best of the Cheltenham Jazz Festival...............Page 36

FEATURES

Pet loves: Psychologists have spent years proving what animal-lovers have always known — looking after a pet is therapeutic.............Page 16

What's cooking: What happens when some of the country's best chefs get together for the annual dinner in honour of those who have won a Michelin star?.........Page 17

Trading places: For many people, temp agencies will be the nearest thing they encounter to a permanent employer......................Page 17

FOCUS

Trends: How does outsourcing work? A special report looks at a practice increasingly catching on with big business........Pages 22, 23

LAW

Net losses: Cybercrime is becoming a huge problem around the world but the US has tackled it only on a national basis. It's time for an international approach......Page 39

Throughout the war in Yugoslavia, the Serb media has been promoting the lie that Serb forces have only been policing a ruthless insurgency in Kosovo and Nato's intervention is unwarranted. Now Steve Pratt, the Care Australia aid worker who, with his colleague Peter Wallace, went missing in Yugoslavia on March 31, has been enlisted to the effort. Mr Pratt must not become a martyr to humanitarianism.

The Sydney Morning Herald

TOMORROW

IN THE TIMES

■ **INTERFACE**
Is the new *Civilisation* game about to conquer the world?

■ **HOMES**
Homeowners could be liable for clearing up if their homes are built on contaminated land

RADIO & TV

Review: Peter Barnard is enchanted by Tony Marchant's no-nonsense adaptation of Dickens's *Great Expectations* (BBC2) **Preview:** How two aviators flew round the world in the *Breitling Orbiter 3* hot air balloon. *The Mission* (BBC1, 10.35pm)..........Pages 50, 51

OPINION

War drums on the hill

An influential group of Congressmen is arguing that the Administration should never, for political as well as military reasons, have emboldened Mr Milosevic by ruling out the use of ground forces, and that the President should admit this now and rapidly mobilise Nato forces..................Page 19

A weaker tomorrow

Instead of making Europe's banks more competitive, today's takeovers are locking in inefficiency. This is not only foolhardy but dangerous. Today's mergers may succeed only in weakening the banking system tomorrow.........Page 19

Keep on trucking

The action of Britain's lorry drivers will win few allies, but their case is persuasive. They should now pursue it with vigour, not from their cabs but around the negotiating table...................................Page 19

COLUMNS

VANORA BENNETT

The most practical reason not to arm the KLA stems not from what it is, but what it is not — militarily effective...................................Page 18

LIBBY PURVES

If we've really got to a situation where nobody speaks for Ofsted except Chris Woodhead ... why, we are in a bad way, and something must be done............Page 18

MICHAEL GOVE

They might have been singing *Flower of Scotland* in the Stade de France on Saturday but *Rule, Britannia* has secured the applause on the hustings.................Page 18

Mary Lutyens, writer; Prof Margot Jefferys, medical sociologist; Olive Shapley, broadcaster...Page 21

UN and Nato's roles in the Balkans; Lords reform: "spiral" addition to V&A; lowering of age of consent; British wildlife protection; mobile phone hazards; young letter writers..............................Page 19

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 21,076

ACROSS
1 Foreign soldier joining me in crack military force (8).
5 Article about spies – it's a plant (6).
10 Comprehensive attention that's given to sheets? (7,8).
11 Straight approach possible from this? (7).
12 Performed song about Spanish drink (7).
13 Female supporter (8).
15 Penny and others make a bit of a bloomer (5).
18 Strength of the opponents playing bridge (5).
20 Deal with damage to get a firm hold (8).
23 Accountant reduced cost – fancy that! (7).
25 Hero's partner in the rowing club (7).
26 Decisive treatment of animals that should get rid of moles (8,7).
27 A judge's work can be irksome (6).
28 For growing fruit, it's under glass or heated with extra energy (8).

DOWN
1 Brush off polish again? (6).
2 Be moved by another body, finding it at burial-place outside (9).
3 Let others go through in advance (4,3).
4 Refusal to accept double time is smart (5).
6 Make tidy profit (5,2).
7 Position of authority in French airline (5).
8 Open to suggestions, allow a maiden to go first (8).
9 Reckon Tory party is on the right (8).
14 Leading thug liable to fall over (3-5).
16 International initiative to assess road safety etc. (4-5).
17 Kill farm animals, initially used for making soup (8).
19 Bird regularly taking cheese (7).
21 Encourage to try and catch up (7).
22 Loading goods into cart can be tedious (6).
24 Lifted up to throw, being aggressive (5).
25 Meliors, for one, given pound extra (5).

Times Two Crossword, page 52

Solution to Puzzle No 21,075

MARSHALSEA SPIT
A E E U R N R R
COPRA GRAPEVINE
A A V G S A N A
BARRICADE NOTED
R A S G R D L
EBBTIDE STEEPLE
L D R O
PRECEDE PATELLA
I L N U H Y B
CHINA CASTANETS
A N Y H H L S O
DESPERADO METAL
O U R N F A E V
RAMP STAFFNURSE

TIMES NEWSPAPERS LIMITED, 1999. Published and printed and licensed for distribution in electronic and all other derivative forms by Times Newspapers Ltd, PO Box 495, Virginia Street, London E1 9XN, telephone 0171-782 5000 and also printed at Kitling Road, Prescot, Merseyside, L34 9HN, telephone 0151-546 2000. Tuesday, April 13, 1999. Registered as a newspaper at the Post Office.

AA INFORMATION

Latest Road and Weather conditions

UK Weather- All regions	0336 444 910
UK Roads - All regions	0336 401 410
Inside M25	0336 401 746
M25 and Link Roads	0336 401 747
National Motorways	0336 401 748
Continental Europe	0336 401 910
Channel crossing	0336 401 388
Motoring to Heathrow & Gatwick airports	0336 407 505

Weather by Fax The Met. Office

Dial 0336 followed by area number from your fax

West Country	416 334	N. Ireland	416 341
Wales	416 335	London	416 342
Midlands	416 336	National Satellite Weather picture	416 397
East Anglia	416 337		
N West	416 338		
N. East	416 339		
Scotland	416 340		

Metfax Marine
Inshore leisure forecasts 416 398

World City Weather The Met. Office
153 destinations world wide
6 day forecast
by Phone dial 0336 411216
by Fax (index page) 0336 416333

Motoring

Europe Country by Country	0336 401 885
European fuel costs	0336 401 884
French Motorways	0336 401 887
Seaport information	0336 401 882
Disneyland Paris	0336 401 409
Le Shuttle	0336 401 895

AA Car reports by fax
new and used car reports from the AA menu of 195 cars 0336 416 399

Dial from your fax handset, you may have to set to poll receive mode

Automobile Association Developments Ltd. Norfolk House Priestley Road Basingstoke RG24 9NY

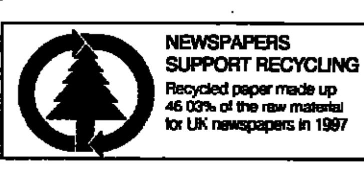
Calls are charged at 50p per minute at all times.

HOURS OF DARKNESS

Sun rises: 6.10 am
Sun sets: 7.53 pm
Moon sets: 4.20 pm
Moon rises: 5.19 am

New moon April 16

London 7.53 pm to 6.08 am
Bristol 8.03 pm to 6.18 am
Edinburgh 8.14 pm to 6.11 am
Manchester 8.05 pm to 6.13 am
Penzance 8.12 pm to 6.32 am



NEWSPAPERS SUPPORT RECYCLING
Recycled paper made up 46.03% of the raw material for UK newspapers in 1997



FREE BOOKS FOR SCHOOLS
Cut out this token for your school today. The more tokens you collect, the more free books your school can claim. A token will appear on the back page of section one in The Times each day until Friday, April 30.



WEATHER

☐ **General:** sunny spells but unseasonably cold, especially in Scotland and Northern Ireland. Showers will spread across England and Wales from the North West, falling as hail and snow in Scotland and Northern Ireland.

☐ **London, SE England, E Anglia, Midlands:** remaining cold all day, with early sunny spells replaced by heavy showers by the afternoon. A moderate to fresh northwesterly wind. Max 9C (48F)

☐ **Central S England, Channel Islands, SW England:** some early sunshine but rather cold with showers breaking out, perhaps merging to a longer period of rain. Fresh northwesterly wind. Max 10C (50F)

☐ **E England, Central N England, NE England:** sunny spells but cold, with frequent showers, some heavy. Fresh northwesterly wind. Max 8C (46F)

☐ **Wales, NW England, Lake District, Isle of Man:** cold and blustery with frequent heavy showers, some of them wintry. Fresh northwesterly wind. Max 8C (46F)

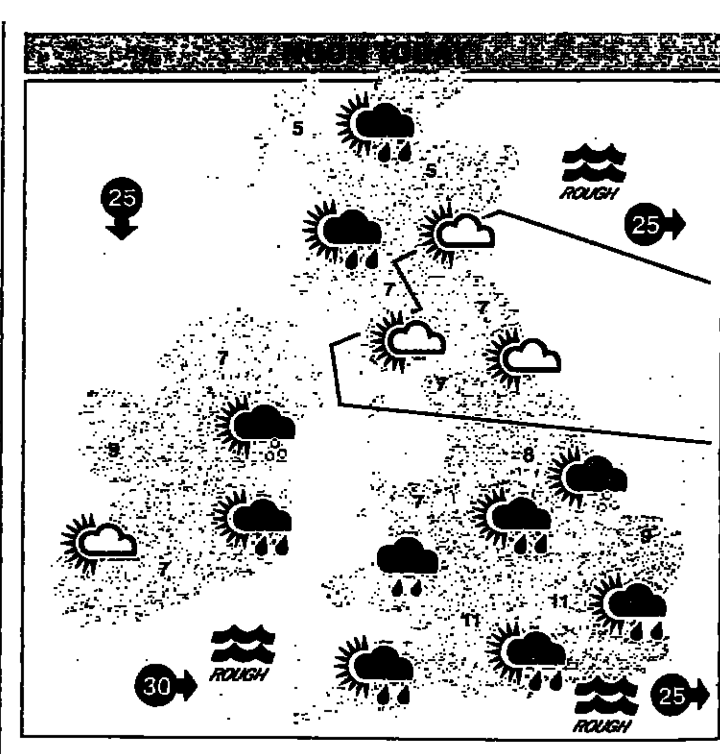
☐ **Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, Aberdeen, SW Scotland, Glasgow:** sunny intervals but showers breaking out, many of them wintry. Fresh northwesterly wind. Max 7C (45F)

☐ **Central Highlands, Moray Firth, NE Scotland, Argyll, NW Scotland, Orkney, Shetland:** very cold and windy with frequent showers and a few sunny spells. Many showers will be of hail, sleet or snow. Strong to gale force northwesterly wind. Max 5C (41F)

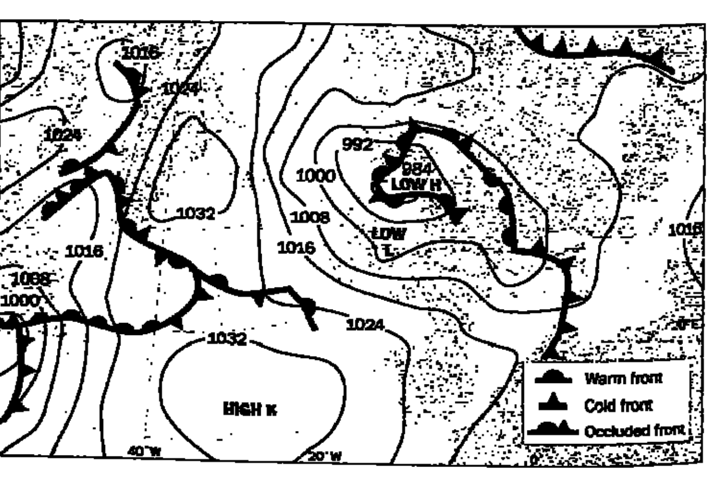
☐ **Northern Ireland:** cold and windy with limited sunny spells and frequent showers, some wintry. Strong northwesterly wind. Max 7C (45F)

☐ **Irish Republic:** bright or sunny intervals and showers, some heavy and prolonged. Strong to gale force wind, west veering northwest, feeling cold. Max 11C (52F)

☐ **Outlook:** cold with sunny spells and wintry showers. Eastern counties may see longer periods of rain.



Changes to the chart below from noon: low H will remain stationary with little change in central pressure; low L will run quickly southeast and deepen a little; high K will remain stationary but will decline slightly

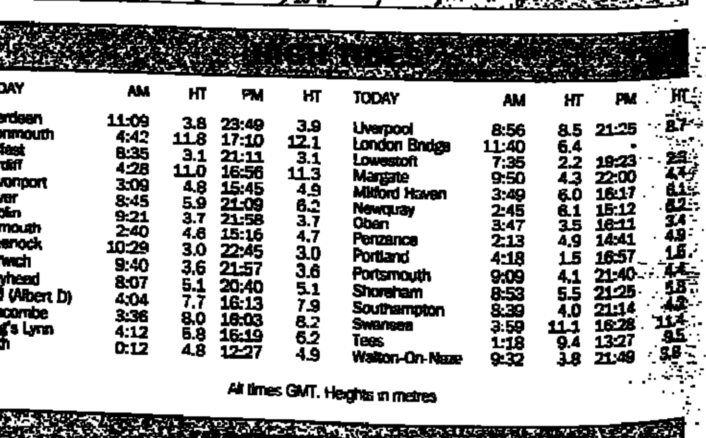


24 hrs to 5 pm: b=bright, c=cloud, d=drizzle, ds=dust storm; du=dull, f=fair, fg=fog; g=gales; h=hail; r=rain, sh=shower; sl=sleet; s=sun; t=thunder

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Aberdeen	2.8	0.19	9	48	r
Anglesey	3.0	0.25	12	54	sh
Aspatria	3.9	0.57	11	52	sh
Aviemore	0.8	0.35	9	48	sl
Belfast	3.1	0.18	11	52	sh
Birmingham	4.3	0.36	11	52	sh
Bognor R	9.9	0.30	13	55	sh
Bournemth	7.1	0.33	13	55	sh
Bristol	5.0	0.61	12	54	sh
Buxton	1.5	0.85	7	45	sh
Cardiff	2.6	0.51	11	52	sh
Clacton	8.8	0.32	11	52	sh
Cleethorpes	7.7	0.18	13	55	sh
Cromer	8.4	0.21	12	54	s
Eastbourne	6.7	0.44	12	54	sh
Edinburgh	3.0	0.13	12	54	h
Eskdalemuir	3.0	1.09	10	50	h
Exmouth	5.5	0.30	11	52	sh
Fishguard	1.4	0.43	10	50	sh
Folkestone	8.2	0.32	13	55	sh
Glasgow	2.7	0.33	13	55	sh
Hastings	5.4	0.39	12	54	sh
Hayling I.	8.2	0.26	12	54	sh
Herne Bay	8.3	X	15	59	sh
Hunstanton	4.1	0.13	13	55	c
Isle of Wight	8.4	0.49	11	52	sh
Jersey	8.8	0.40	13	55	sh
Kinloss	1.5	0.03	9	48	r
Leeds	4.6	0.20	12	54	sh
Lerwick	2.4	0.34	6	43	sh
Leuchars	4.0	0.05	12	54	sh
Littlehampton	7.6	0.44	12	54	sh
London	5.1	0.42	14	57	sh
Lowestoft	6.6	0.20	13	55	sh
Manchester	1.7	0.49	10	50	sh
Margate	5.7	0.29	13	55	sh
Morecambe	4.1	0.57	11	52	b
Newcastle	5.2	0.06	12	54	h
Newquay	2.6	0.35	11	52	sh
Norwich	7.0	0.29	13	55	sh
Oxford	3.0	0.35	12	54	sh
Penzance	6.9	0.38	13	55	g
Poole	3.0	0.32	14	57	sh
Prestatyn	4.0	0.35	11	52	sh
Ross on Wye	2.5	0.32	13	55	b
Saunton Sands	1.9	0.25	11	52	s
Scarborough	5.1	0.14	11	52	s
Shrewsbury	3.7	0.22	12	54	sh
Skegness	7.8	0.20	12	54	s
Southend	6.5	0.47	13	55	sh
Southsea	7.5	0.01	13	55	r
Stornoway	3.2	0.20	8	46	h
Swanage	7.2	0.34	12	54	sh
Teignmouth	7.0	0.24	13	55	sh
Tenby	3.2	0.52	13	55	sh
Tiree	6.8	0.07	9	48	sh
Torquay	8.3	0.28	13	65	s
Tynemouth	-	0.09	11	52	t
Weymouth	6.4	0.23	12	54	sh

	C	F			C	F			C	F			C	F	
Ajaccio	17	63	s	Cologne	13	55	f	Madrid	19	66	s	Rome	16	61	s
Akrotiri	19	66	s	C'phagn	9	48	c	Majorca	19	66	s	Salzburg	11	52	r
Alex'dria	21	70	s	Corfu	15	59	c	Malaga	21	70	s	S Frisco	11	52	c
Algiers	22	72	s	Dublin	11	52	c	Malta	16	61	c	Santiago	25	77	s
Amst'dm	10	50	f	Dubrovnik	14	57	f	Melbourne	X	X	X	S Paulo	X		
Athens	18	64	f	Faro	21	70	s	Mexico C	27	81	s	Seoul	22	72	s
Bahrain	27	81	s	Florence	X	X	X	Miami	32	90	s	Singapore	31	88	t
Bangkok	32	90	f	Frankfurt	11	52	c	Milan	19	66	s	Stockholm	10	50	f
Barbados	29	84	s	Funchal	19	66	s	Montreal	6	43	s	Strasb'rg	11	52	c
Barcelona	17	63	s	Geneva	9	48	c	Moscow	8	46	c	Sydney	21	70	f
Beijing	12	54	c	Gibraltar	19	66	s	Munich	11	52	r	Tangier	23	73	s
Beirut	19	66	f	Helsinki	7	45	c	Nairobi	24	75	f	Tel Aviv	23	73	s
Belgrade	13	55	f	Hong K	24	75	r	Naples	17	63	f	Tenerife	23	73	s
Berlin	13	55	c	Innsbruck	14	57	c	N Delhi	35	95	s	Tokyo	15	59	r
Bermuda	19	66	f	Istanbul	17	63	f	N York	7	45	f	Toronto	5	41	c
Biarritz	13	55	f	Jeddah	34	93	s	Nice	16	61	s	Tunis	20	68	f
Bordeaux	13	55	c	Jo'burg	23	73	f	Oslo	10	50	c	Valencia	23	73	s
Brussels	10	50	f	L Palmas	23	73	s	Paris	11	52	f	Vanc'ver	12	54	s
Budapest	14	57	c	Le Touqt	10	50	f	Perth	X	X	X	Venice	15	59	s
B Aires	19	66	f	Lisbon	23	73	s	Prague	12	54	r	Vienna	16	61	f
Cairo	29	84	s	Locarno	15	59	s	Reykjavik	3	37	t	Warsaw	16	61	s
Cape Tn	28	82	s	L Angeles	13	55	f	Rhodes	15	59	r	Wash'ton	10	50	f
Chicago	9	48	f	Luxembg	10	50	c	Rio de J	18	64	t	Wellngton	13	55	X
Ch'church	12	54	X	Luxor	34	93	s	Riyadh	28	82	s	Zurich	9	48	c

Temperatures at midday local time on Sunday X = not available



TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT	TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
Aberdeen	11:09	3.8	23:49	3.9	Liverpool	8:56	8.5	21:25	8.7
Avonmouth	4:42	11.8	17:10	12.1	London Bridge	11:40	6.4	•	
Belfast	8:35	3.1	21:11	3.1	Lowestoft	7:35	2.2	19:23	2.3
Cardiff	4:28	11.0	16:56	11.3	Margate	9:50	4.3	22:00	4.4
Devonport	3:09	4.8	15:45	4.9	Milford Haven	3:49	6.0	16:17	6.1
Dover	8:45	5.9	21:09	6.2	Newquay	2:45	6.1	15:12	6.2
Dublin	9:21	3.7	21:58	3.7	Oban	3:47	3.5	16:11	3.4
Falmouth	2:40	4.6	15:16	4.7	Penzance	2:13	4.9	14:41	4.9
Greenock	10:29	3.0	22:45	3.0	Portland	4:18	1.5	16:57	1.6
Harwich	9:40	3.6	21:57	3.6	Portsmouth	9:09	4.1	21:40	4.4
Holyhead	8:07	5.1	20:40	5.1	Shoreham	8:53	5.5	21:25	5.8
Hull (Albert D)	4:04	7.7	16:13	7.9	Southampton	8:39	4.0	21:14	4.2
Ilfracombe	3:36	8.0	16:03	8.2	Swansea	3:59	11.1	16:28	11.4
King's Lynn	4:12	5.8	16:19	6.2	Tees	1:18	9.4	13:27	9.5
Leith	0:12	4.8	12:27	4.9	Walton-On-Naze	9:32	3.8	21:49	3.8

All times GMT. Heights in metres

Yesterday: highest day temp: Herne Bay, Kent, 15C (59F); lowest day max: Lerwick, Shetland, 6C (43F); highest rainfall: Capel Curig, Gwynedd, 2.32ins; highest sunshine: Bognor Regis, West Sussex, 9.9hrs.

Big screen USA
Arts, page 34

BUSINESS • LAW • ARTS • SPORT • TELEVISION

THE TIMES

2

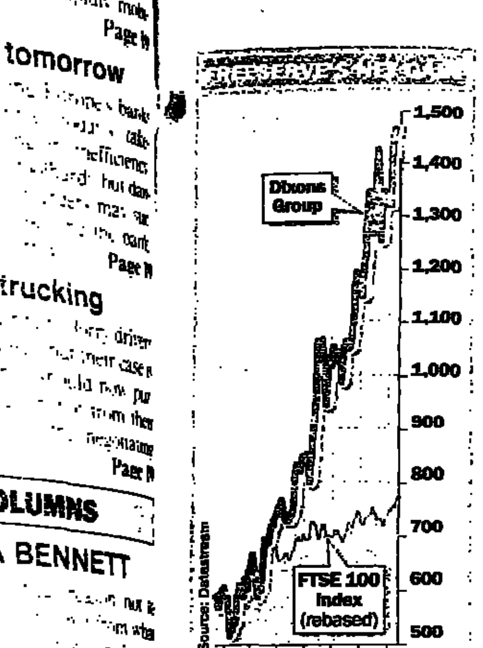
BUSINESS EDITOR Patience Wheatcroft

TUESDAY APRIL 13 1999

In search of Nazi plunder
Arts, page 35

Listing would give Britain its first blue-chip Internet stock

Dixons looks at Freeserve float



BY CHRIS AYRES

BRITAIN could soon get its first ever *blue-chip Internet stock. Dix*ons Group said yesterday that it had appointed financial advisers to look into a multi-billion pound flotation of its Freeserve subsidiary.

The retail chain, which has seen its stock market value rise by more than £4.1 billion since launching Freeserve *six months ago, will also announce to*day the appointment of a chief executive to run the free Internet access service. The appointment is understood to be internal.

Dixons told the Stock Exchange yesterday that it had appointed Credit Suisse First Boston and Cazenove & Co to "explore the strategic alternatives available" to Freeserve.

It added that it wanted "to enable Freeserve to realise its full potential and to optimise the value of Freeserve for Dixons shareholders, including a potential initial public offering of a minority interest in Freeserve."

However, there was confusion yesterday over how to value Freeserve, which has attracted more than 1.5 million account holders since its launch, and is expected by analysts to break even in the second half of this year. Even John Clare, chief executive of Dixons, said he had "no idea" how to value the company. "There is no serious way to value it," he said. "We're setting our financial advisers an interesting task."

Freeserve was the first company to offer a large-scale free Internet access service in the UK. It makes money through an agreement with Energis, the telephone company, under which Freeserve takes a cut of all calls made to its service. The company also hopes to eventually make money by offering online shopping services.

George O'Conner, a technology analyst at Granville, the stockbroker, said Freeserve would have "a minimum value of £1.8 billion". Other analysts have put its value at more than £3 billion.

The announcement caused shares in Dixons to leap 114p to £15.64 . The rise was caused mainly by speculation that Dixons could give cash raised through a partial flotation of Freeserve back to shareholders in the form of a special dividend. Mr Clare insisted that it was "early days", but conceded that Dixons did not need more cash.

"We already have a significant valuation of Freeserve in our share price, but how much that is we don't know. Freeserve is likely to attract a different kind of investor. But there's been no pressure from shareholders [to float Freeserve] at all."

Technology analysts said that Dix*ons could be valued in two ways: as a* so-called "Internet portal" such as Yahoo!, or as an Internet service provider, such as America OnLine (AOL).

However, analysts argue that because Freeserve does not charge a subscription fee, it cannot be compared directly with AOL, and because it takes a cut of all telephone calls to its service, it cannot be compared directly with Yahoo! Internet service providers tend to be valued according to subscriber numbers, while portals tend to be valued according to how many visitors they attract to their sites, and for how long.

WALT DISNEY MAY SPIN OFF WEB ASSETS

WALT DISNEY, the entertainment group, is said to be considering a spin-off of its Internet interests, joining a growing list of "traditional" companies that feel that their share values do not reflect the high-tech businesses nurtured within.

Alongside its more established film-making and leisure interests, Disney provides a variety of Internet services, including websites for children, news from ABC, the television network, and online shopping.

The jewel in its multimedia crown, however, is the Go Network Internet portal that it set up with Infoseek, the search engine company. Go provides *a similar service to Yahoo!, acting as* a navigational aid for Internet users, without bias towards Disney sites. Disney owns 43 per cent of Infoseek. It bought the stake for $70 million plus its share in Starwave, the website design company.

A Disney spokeswoman refused to comment, but any flotation of the assets on Wall Street would be eagerly *awaited by traders who can turn In*ternet companies into multibillion-dollar businesses almost overnight.

Business Today



Anatole Kaletsky
Why lessons of the late Eighties must not be forgotten
page 31

STOCK MARKET INDICES

FTSE 100	6441.2	(-31.6)
Yield	2.14%	
FTSE All Share	2956.36	(-12.43)
Nikkei	16507.40	(-348.23)
New York:		
Dow Jones	10209.36	(+35.52)*
S&P Composite	1345.24	(-3.11)*

US RATES

Federal Funds	4[illegible]%*	(4[illegible]%)
Long bond	97[illegible]*	(96[illegible])
Yield	5.44%*	(5.46%)

LONDON MONEY

3-mth interbank	5[illegible]%	(5[illegible]%)
Liffe long gilt future (Jun)	118.27	(118.30)

STERLING

New York:		
$	1.6132*	(1.6077)
London:		
$	1.6148	(1.6057)
€	1.4886	(1.4900)
SFr	2.3865	(2.3845)
Yen	193.99	(194.43)
£ Index	102.7	(102.6)

DOLLAR

London:		
€	1.0843*	(1.0795)
SFr	1.4790*	(1.4835)
Yen	120.13*	(120.87)
$ Index	106.2	(106.9)

Tokyo close Yen 120.38

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent 15-day (Jun)	$14.60	($14.80)

GOLD

London close	$283.55	($281.85)

* denotes midday trading prices

Exchange rates .... Page 28

TIMES-MONEY WEBSITE

For the latest news on money matters

http://www.times-money.co.uk

Goldman chiefs set to share £800m in flotation

BY CAROLINE MERRELL, BANKING CORRESPONDENT

THE 11 most senior directors of Goldman Sachs are to share a total of $1.3 bil*lion (£800 million) under the* terms of the Wall Street investment bank's flotation revealed yesterday.

Of Goldman's most senior executives, the bank's prospectus shows that Hank Paulson, co-chair*man, who has been a part*ner of the bank for 17 years, will receive shares worth $207 million. John Thornton, co-chief operating officer, who has been a partner for 11 years, will receive shares worth $150 million. *Robert Hurst*, vice-chairman, will receive shares worth $194 million, while John Thain, co-chief operating officer, will receive shares worth $155 million.

Outside of the top executives, 210 other partners will share about $10 billion of stock, giving each an average payout of $48 million. Gavyn Davies, the bank's chief economist in London is expected to get $40 million. The bank has 46 part*ners based in London.*

Goldman also confirmed the appointment of Sir John Browne, chief executive of BP Amoco, and James Johnson, the former head of Fannie Mae, as non-executive directors.

The investment bank, the last large partnership on Wall Street, is expected to float at the beginning of May with a price of $45 to $55 a share valuing the entire firm at about $23.5 billion. Originally the bank was expected to float at about $40 to $50 a share.

All of Goldman's 13,000 staff will get shares. Their individual entitlements will be equivalent to about half of last year's salary plus bonus. The total amount allocated to employees will be about $5 billion, or 21.5 per cent of share capital.

Commentary, page 29

Token rate cut made by lenders

BY SUSAN EMMETT AND ALASDAIR MURRAY

LEADING mortgage lenders announced yesterday that they would pass on to borrowers less than half of the interest rate cut made last week by the *Bank of England — and gave* warning that any further falls were unlikely.

Halifax, Britain's largest lender, was first to reduce its rate by just 0.1 per cent. This compares with the 0.25 per cent cut announced last week *by the Bank of England.*

The Halifax decision quickly forced other lenders to take action with Abbey National, its closest rival as well as the Northern Rock and Cheltenham & Gloucester, also announcing rate reductions.

None of the lenders passed on the full quarter point cut. Halifax said it needed to consider the needs of savers. Savers have been hit hard by the rapid decline in base rates, which has resulted in many instant access accounts paying rates that are less than inflation.

The move brings Halifax's mortgage rate down to 6.85 per cent, saving borrowers with a £50,000 repayment mortgage only about £3 a month.

Simon Tyler of Chase de Vere Mortgage Management, said: "In financial terms the cut means very little. But it's all about sentiment. There would be too much of a potential backlash if there had not been a move."

Other mortgage experts were surprised lenders cut *rates by such a token amount* given the administration costs of rate changes.

Ray Boulger, a mortgage expert at John Charcol, the mortgage broker, said: "Halifax may have been trying to put pressure on lenders with high*er rates, in which case the strat*egy has worked."

The City is divided on whether there will be any further rate reductions, with many analysts pointing to growing evidence that the economy is heading for a "soft landing".

This view was backed up by the March British Retail Consortium monthly sales monitor, which showed that like-for-like high street sales were 3.9 per cent higher than in the same month last year. However, the BRC cautioned the figures were boosted by the early Easter and if the holiday was stripped out, sales grew by a more modest 0.9 per cent.

The separate March CBI financial services sector survey also showed an increase in business volumes during the past three months with forward expectations at their highest level for a year.



John Ritblat, chairman of British Land, who pursued the Broadgate Estate long and hard

British Land to securitise Broadgate

BY CARL MORTISHED

BRITISH LAND is to launch the largest ever securitised property funding package with a £1.54 billion bond offering backed by the rental income of the Broadgate Estate.

The fundraising will enable British Land to repay more ex*pensive bank borrowings* taken on to acquire the 30-acre City development near Liverpool Street station and cut the company's interest payments.

The bond offering is expected to carry a coupon in "the low 6 per cent range" and will reduce *British Land's average borrow*ing cost from 8.49 per cent to about 7.4 per cent. The bonds are secured by £100 million of income from ring-fenced British Land subsidiaries that own the 13 properties comprising the 3.7 million sq ft estate.

The Broadgate Estate, which was originally developed by Stuart Lipton and Godfrey Bradman, was pursued long and hard by John Ritblat, chairman of British Land. Mr Ritblat won a battle in March 1995 to takeover the ailing Stanhope Properties, led by Mr Lipton.

The deal delivered a half share in Broadgate Properties and British Land later struck a deal with the receivers of Rosehaugh, Godfrey Bradman's insolvent company, to secure the other half of the company.

Tempus, page 30

Yeltsin warning lifts gold

THE depressed gold price showed signs of revival yesterday, with traders taking heed of President Yeltsin's threats to spark a world war and the release of figures showing a record number of short trading positions (Paul Armstrong writes). The price of bullion climbed to a high on the day of $284.50 an ounce, up from the London afternoon fix price of $280.60 per oz. on Friday. It closed at $283.80 per oz.

Kamal Naqvi, a metals analyst with Macquarie Bank, said Mr Yeltsin's war warnings on Friday pushed the price through the $282 per oz resistance level. He said the price was strengthened further by data showing the number of net outstanding short positions stood at 88.363oz, its highest level since the data became available in 1996.

Kwik-Fit to accelerate expansion within Ford

THE Ford Motor Company is to buy Kwik-Fit, the car repair chain for just over £1 billion *(Sarah Cunningham writes).*

Ford's offer of 560p per share has been accepted by Kwik-Fit's directors. Sir Tom Farmer, founder, chairman and chief executive, will pick up some £77.3 million from the sale of his 13.8 million shares.

The US motor group, the world's second largest, whose brands include Ford, Lincoln, Mazda, Jaguar and Aston Martin, plans to accelerate Kwik-Fit's expansion across Europe. Jacques Nasser, president and chief executive of Ford, said: "The acquisition of Kwik-Fit is an important step towards Ford's goal to become the world's leading consumer company that provides automotive products and services through world class brands." Earlier this year Ford bought Volvo's car division in a near £4 billion deal.

Sir Tom, who founded the business in 1971, will continue to run Kwik-Fit, which employs 9,500 people, from within Ford. He said: "This provides us with a tremendous opportunity to complement Ford's global strategy and expand the Kwik-Fit brand as widely as possible."

The business includes 644 Kwik-Fit outlets in Great Britain and Ireland, a growing motor insurance side, a chain of 143 Tyre Plus centres and 71 Apple Car Clinics.

Family money, page 3
Commentary, page 29

Sainsbury axe falls

J Sainsbury yesterday confirmed that it is closing the headquarters of Savacentre, its hypermarket business.

Some 85 of the Wokingham-based staff will be relocated to the group's central London headquarters, but 230 face redundancy. Sainsbury's said it expects to save £9 million a year from the closure from next year. This year's saving will be about £1 million. Sainsbury is expected to say on Friday that it will shed 350 senior staff at its Stamford Street head office. Commentary, page 29

Wray stands down as Forest chairman

NIGEL WRAY, the property tycoon, is limping away from the chairmanship of Nottingham Forest, the team at the bottom of football's Premier League, nursing a £1.1 million loss (Jason Nissé writes).

The move follows criticism from fans over Mr Wray's refusal to come up with extra funds to help Forest. Local anger has been vented at Mr Wray's decision to invest a further £5 million in Saracens, the rugby union side he owns.

As part of the Saracens deal, Mr Wray wants to buy the freehold of Vicarage Road, the ground Saracens shares with Watford, the first division football club. This deal could have breached the rules on football club ownership had Mr Wray stayed on at Forest.

He is standing aside in favour of Eric Barnes, the founder of Experian, the information group owned by GUS. Mr Barnes is buying a 5.7 per cent stake in Forest from Mr Wray, who is also selling another 5.7 per cent to Phil Soar, Forest's chief executive. This will cut Mr Wray's stake to 9.1 per cent and leave him with a £1.1 million loss on the shares he sold.

You can't please all of the people all of the time.
Anon.

With our new Fusion Mortgage you can.
John Charcol.

Our new Fusion Mortgage combines all the best mortgage options in one: 1) 5 years of discounts, 2) free switching to a fixed rate before 2002, 3) no redemption penalties (offering flexibility to repay the loan in full or part) and, 4) it has a cap of 6.49% (7.0% APR) to 1/5/2002, offering interest rate protection. The details: 1.75% discount until 1/5/2000 = 5.1% (5.9% APR) ■ Followed by a 1.5% discount until 1/5/2001 and a 1% discount until 1/5/2002 ■ Available for purchases and remortgages up to 95% of property value. Call now for your nearest branch.

JOHN CHARCOL
0800 71 81 91
Talk about a better mortgage.
www.johncharcol.co.uk

A £80,000 interest only mortgage (being £79,975 credit + £25 fees) on a property valued at £120,000, completing 30/4/99 over 25 years. 1 net monthly repayment of £355.94 followed by 11 net monthly repayments of £327.25, 12 net monthly repayments of £343.29, 275 net monthly repayments of £375.38 and one final gross repayment of £80,375.38. Total gross amount payable £196,804.85 calculated to include an arrangement fee of £300, £49 John Charcol reservation fee, £126 legal fee, £25 funds release fee, £55 sealing fee, accrued interest of £28.89 (net) and £245 valuation fee. The APR is typical for an interest only loan over 25 years and assumes the lender's Standard Variable Rate will remain at 6.85% (7.2% APR) for the remainder of the loan. In practice the rate may differ from that assumed. APR may vary. Where loans exceed 90% of property value, additional security in the form of a Mortgage Indemnity Premium will be required. Mortgage secured on property. Insurance may be required. Loans subject to status, type and value of property. Limited funds available. **John Charcol operates through branches and franchises (who are Appointed Representatives) any of which you may be connected to on the above number.** John Charcol Ltd and the John Charcol Partnership Ltd have issued and approved this advertisement and are regulated by the Personal Investment Authority. The PIA does not regulate mortgage business. Credit broker fees of up to 1% of the amount borrowed may be charged. Written quotations available on request for interest only mortgages only. Rates correct at time of going to press. To maintain the quality of our service, calls to this number may be recorded for training and monitoring services. Head Office: 10-12 Great Queen Street, London WC2B 5DD. Tel: 0171 611 7000

YOUR HOME IS AT RISK IF YOU DO NOT KEEP UP REPAYMENTS ON A MORTGAGE OR OTHER LOAN SECURED ON IT.

Heineken tipped as buyer for Spanish brewer

By Dominic Walsh

HEINEKEN, the Dutch brewing company, is being tipped as the frontrunner in the auction for Cruzcampo, the Spanish brewer put up for sale by Diageo with an estimated price tag of between £400 million and £500 million.

Diageo, whose Guinness arm has owned Cruzcampo since 1991, confirmed yesterday that it has decided to test the market "in response to recent approaches by potential purchasers". It has appointed Goldman Sachs, the investment bank, to advise on the process.

However, the food and drink group played down recent suggestions in the Spanish press that a sale to Heineken was a done deal and said it would only sell at the right price. "We're just at the start of the process," said a source close to Diageo. "It will be several weeks before any decision is made."

Carlsberg of Denmark, Anheuser-Busch of the US and South African Breweries are also being seen as possible bidders for the business, which is forecast to make a profit this year of about £35 million. Last year its turnover was £300 million.

Guinness paid £530 million for its 89 per cent stake in Cruzcampo as part of a move to expand its stout-based brewing business into lager. Although it is still the market leader, with 25 per cent of the Spanish market, it has not proved one of its better investments. Cruzcampo has suffered from a combination of recession and intense competition, and Diageo has made no secret of its desire to seek an exit.

Although Carlsberg owns 10 per cent of Cruzcampo, it is considered a less likely bidder than Heineken, which owns 71.3 per cent of El Aguila, one of Cruzcampo's biggest rivals. Heineken has for some time expressed a desire to increase its Spanish presence, although it is also thought to be eyeing Mahou, another big Iberian brewer.

A spokesman for Heineken described suggestions of its interest in Cruzcampo as "rumour", but he confirmed: "We are interested in enlarging our activities in Spain."

Welsh plea for rethink on water investment

By Robert Lea

WELSH WATER has called for a rethink of the Government's water quality improvement programme, saying the increase in its investment obligations means it is being forced to spend nearly three times as much per customer as Thames Water will spend on Londoners.

Publishing its strategic business plan up to 2005, Welsh Water, part of the quoted multi-utility Hyder, yesterday said that its spend over five years will have to rise by 36 per cent to £1.7 billion.

Ofwat, the water regulator, is policing government demands for the privatised water companies to improve the quality of drinking water and clean up rivers and the environment.

Graham Hawker, chief executive of Welsh Water, said: "Wales is necessarily a high-cost area in which to run a water and sewarage business because of its small population spread in a relatively large geographical area.

"As an example of our higher costs, our capital investment plan compares with £2.5 billion planned by Thames, which equates to investment of £500 per customer in London compared with £1,400 per customer in Wales.

"As a result, instead of staying stable, bills will have to rise to pay for the increase in investment. We are not persuaded that this is the right balance and we have written to ministers suggesting that they consider options to rephase part of the investment programme until after 2005 to reduce the impact on future prices."

In an open letter to Ofwat, Mr Hawker said: "It is essential that there is an open and informed debate on the issues over the months ahead."

While the bills of Welsh Water customers are expected to rise by 3.5 per cent, North West Water yesterday said its bills will be going up by 5.8 per cent a year, or £13 per household.

NW Water, part of United Utilities, said it is being required to spend £3.7 billion, more than double the figure previously expected and accounting for a quarter of all the spend to improve quality demanded by the Department of the Environment, Transport and the Regions.

Anglian Water said its bills will be going up by about £40 over the next five years as a result of its programme. This is against a £12 cut for customers over the same period if the company was to keep to current service levels.

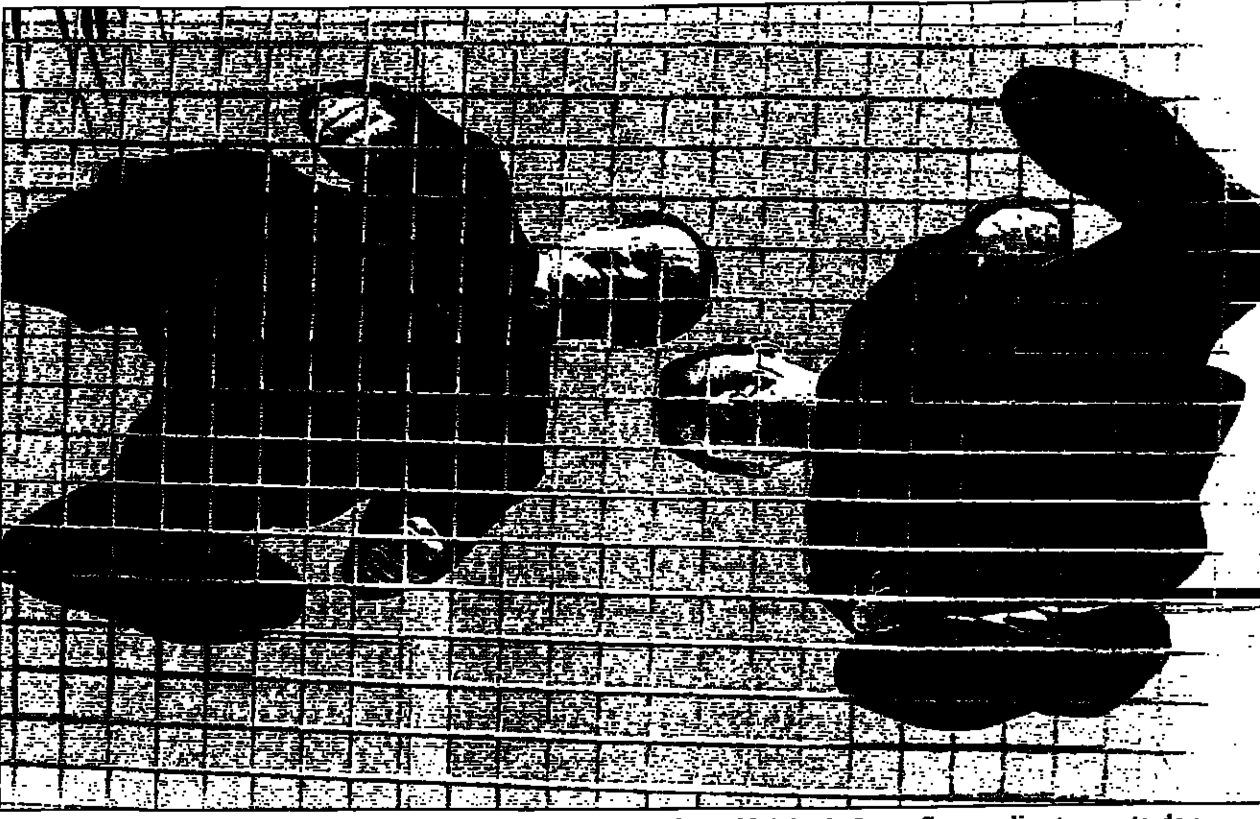
Yorkshire Water said that its £1.7 billion spending plan will mean a rise of 2.5 per cent for customers, or £6 per household.

Tempus, page 30

EXCHANGE RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.64	2.46
Austria Sch	21.47	19.81
Belgium Fr	63.20	58.24
Canada $	2.537	2.349
Cyprus Cyp £	0.9046	0.8331
Denmark Kr	11.65	10.76
Egypt	5.72	5.11
Finland Mkk	9.40	8.65
France Fr	10.23	9.45
Germany Dm	3.073	2.831
Greece Dr	508	469
Hong Kong $	13.34	12.14
Iceland	130	110
Indonesia	17737	12737
Ireland Pt	1.2261	1.1370
Israel Shk	6.87	6.21
Italy Lira	3058	2819
Japan Yen	208.70	191.17
Malta	0.674	0.615
Netherlds Gld	3.469	3.174
New Zealand $	3.12	2.88
Norway Kr	13.07	12.13
Portugal Esc	310.79	288.76
S Africa Rd	10.60	9.64
Spain Pta	259.01	240.22
Sweden Kr	14.14	13.04
Switzerland Fr	2.539	2.321
Turkey Lira	628429	586659
USA $	1.722	1.579

Rates for small denomination banknotes only as supplied by Barclays Bank. Different rates apply to traveller's cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.



ADRIAN SHERRATT

John Steinbrecher, left, Electronics Boutique's chief executive, with Martin Long, finance director, yesterday

Game set and match for EB

By Chris Ayres

NEIL TAYLOR, chairman of Game, the chain of specialist computer games shops, is set to receive a £22 million jackpot after the company accepted a takeover offer from the rival Electronics Boutique (EB).

Game is valued at £99.2 million by the 134.3p-a-share offer, of which 41.7p is in cash and 92.6p is in new EB shares.

EB, which is will use both debt and new shares to fund the acquisition, said that the deal would give it a "stronger home base from which to move into Europe".

Mr Taylor's windfall comes after his sale of £38 million worth of Games shares at the company's flotation last June, at 200p each. Trading problems have since caused Game shares to halve in value, before rising to 126p on takeover speculation.

Game's acceptance of EB's offer surprised many in the City, which had expected Mr Taylor to oppose any deal that valued the company at below 200p a share. However, EB yesterday said that it would keep the Game brand, and continue to open Game stores.

The combined group will have a total of 268 stores (with 182 trading under EB's brand) and estimated full-year sales of £242 million. Profits are expected to be £23 million.

Mr Taylor will leave Game immediately, and its other senior directors will be put on short-term contracts to oversee integration of the two companies. They are not expected to stay in the long term.

John Steinbrecher, EB's chief executive, said: "The combination with Game will significantly strengthen our UK presence, enable us to develop a second brand and position us well to achieve our planned expansion into continental Europe."

EB yesterday reported almost doubled pre-tax profits for the year to January 31, up from £8 million to £15.3 million on sales 28 per cent higher at £159 million. For the first time in five years, EB will pay both an interim and a final dividend, making a 1.1p total.

Tempus, page 30

European Leisure hits at bidder's accounting

By Dominic Walsh

EUROPEAN LEISURE, the snooker hall and nightclub operator, yesterday stepped up its efforts to escape from a hostile bid from Waterfall Holdings by calling for the dismissal of Ernst & Young as its rival's auditor.

European, which has a 24 per cent stake in Waterfall, said that it intended to use its holding to requisition an extraordinary general meeting to consider the group's accounting practices. In particular, it is questioning "an undisclosed one-off amount" of £300,000 in 1998 profits, received as part of a renegotiated beer supply contract.

However, Waterfall immediately rejected the claims as "irrelevant and immaterial", arguing that the £300,000 payment had been discussed by the two sides at a meeting in February and disclosed in detail in a report from its brokers, WestLB Panmure, last September. It also confirmed its "support for, and total confidence in, Ernst & Young".

Waterfall launched its all-share offer, currently worth 112p a share, after European's announcement last month that it was accepting a paper bid from Allied Leisure, the Burger King restaurants and ten-pin bowling group, currently valued at 89p a share. European's share price was unchanged last night at 91p, giving it a market capitalisation of £32.3 million.

Some analysts believe that the companies should put aside their differences and discuss a three-way merger.

"It's about time some heads were knocked together," said one analyst. "Everybody accepts the need for consolidation, and one way or another these three are eventually going to end up in bed together. They should do it now and stop wasting money slinging mud at each other."

Medeva shares hit by US setback

By Paul Durman

SHARES of Medeva fell 10 per cent yesterday after the US Food and Drugs Administration refused to accept the company's initial licensing submission for Hepagene, the hepatitis B vaccine that is the most important product in its pipeline.

The FDA's numerous concerns included the number of people who took part in Medeva's safety trial and the manufacturing process.

In a statement, Medeva said: "The FDA also requires further information on protocols relating to validation of equipment, processes and systems."

Shares of Medeva, struggling with falling profits because of tumbling sales of its biggest-selling drug, slid from 121p to 108½p, against a 12-month high of 183p. Two years ago, the shares wre changing hands at 330p.

A spokeswoman said the FDA's move was only "half a step backwards". European regulators have already accepted a similar filing on Hepagene for review.

Medeva is seeking to clarify the problems with the FDA and intends to publish an update next month. Bill Bogie, chief executive, said he remained confident in Hepagene's merits as a vaccine.

Hepatatis B is a potentially fatal liver disease that affects more than 300 million people, though mostly in South-East Asia. Medeva hopes to develop Hepagene as a treatment as well as a vaccine.

Electra in disposal talks

ELECTRA Investment Trust, the venture capital fund currently embroiled in a bitter £1.3 billion bid battle with rival fund 3i, said yesterday that it is in discussions to sell two of its unquoted investments (Robert Cole writes).

Electra owns 66.7 per cent of PHS, a supplier of washroom products and said it has "received expressions of interest from a number of potential purchasers and has received an indicative offer in excess of the £80 million". It is also in talks to dispose of WAP Reinigungssysteme, a German maker of cleaning equipment.

Shares in Electra were unchanged at 724½p yesterday but 3i fell 27½p to 649p.

Tempus, page 30



Michael Stoddart, chairman of Electra Investment Trust

Tessa deadline dismay at L&G

By Fran Littlewood

HUNDREDS of investors attempting to take out a last-minute Tessa with Legal & General have been left in limbo after a mailing fiasco which is being blamed on the Post Office. L&G claims to have lost £1 million of business in the foul-up.

About 800 investors who posted their Tessa applications before the end of the financial year — ahead of the final deadline for Tessas — have been left in limbo after discovering that their applications failed to make it to L&G on time.

An L&G spokeswoman said that the financial services group has set up a meeting with the Post Office to find out what went wrong. "We are hugely disappointed because we do not want to turn away business," she said. She denied that L&G had failed to process the applications in time to meet the deadline.

L&G contacted the Inland Revenue to ask for the deadline to be extended in the light of the delay, but was refused. A Revenue spokeswoman said: "The position is that if you did not get your application in by the deadline, then it would not be accepted by the Revenue." She added that the Revenue was taking a hard line with investors who waited until the last minute.

In an attempt to placate angry investors, L&G has offered those whose applications were rejected an extra 0.5 per cent interest on a cash Isa until the end of the year.

The L&G Tessa offered a very attractive rate of 6.1 per cent on a minimum investment of £1 and had headed up a number of best-buy investment tables in the run-up to the Tessa deadline.

Mark Dampier, head of research at the independent financial adviser Hargreaves Lansdown, said: "People always leave it until the last minute. If you apply by post there is always going to be that danger." He added that he expects a number of similar cases to emerge over the coming weeks.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

GEC unveils £136m Marconi contracts

GENERAL ELECTRIC COMPANY yesterday announced that Marconi Communications, its telecommunications equipment division, has won two contracts worth £136 million. In the bigger contract, Romania has placed a £100 million order for an integrated military communications system. The package, which includes 400 fixed and transportable radio communications systems, is due for completion in 2002. Marconi said that some of the equipment, which is already used by military forces in France, Canada and Italy, would be built in Romania under a technology licensing agreement.

Marconi will also supply a communications package worth £36 million to Bulgaria's defence ministry. The purchase is part of a programme to make Bulgaria's systems compatible with those used by Nato. Marconi plans to start delivering the system in September. It is to be fully operational by 2001.

Telecom Italia ahead

SHARES in Telecom Italia gained 6 per cent as the market assessed the increased chances of a successful takeover of the Italian telephone utility. Telecom shares ended just under €10 (£6.71p), against Olivetti's €11.50 offer, and speculation continued that a white knight might come to Telecom's aid after the collapse of its defence strategy. Analysts reckon the Italian Government would bar a full bid from a foreign firm, but an alliance with a share swap might save the company from Olivetti.

PizzaExpress reward

PIZZAEXPRESS yesterday proved that it is not only boardroom "fat cats" who can make big profits from share options. About ten restaurant managers, warehouse supervisors and other managers below board level are sitting on a paper profit of £867,000 after exercising 130,000 options at either 128p or 217p a share. PizzaExpress shares were 870p last night. A restaurant manager exercising the standard amount of 10,000 options at the higher figure would be sitting on a £65,300 profit.

E-commerce on rise

A MORI survey for the Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year award programme has revealed that 38 per cent of British entrepreneurs are already engaged in e-commerce. Of the 60 per cent yet to embrace the online economy, more than half plan to introduce e-commerce strategies over the next two years, the survey found. In the financial services and high-technology sectors more than 79 per cent say they will be buying and selling online within three years.

US deal for Carclo

CARCLO Engineering Group, the technical plastics company, has agreed to pay $25 million (£15.5 million) for Carrera Corporation, a US company that makes injection mouldings for the vehicle, teletronics and medical industries. Carrera reported earnings before interest and tax of $2 million in the year to September 30 from sales of $27.2 million. Carclo also announced that it would stop making flat wire products and reduce production of round wire goods.

Slough in £45m sales

SLOUGH ESTATES, the owner of industrial and commercial properties, has realised £45 million from the sale of nine buildings. The deal was part of Slough's plan to sell non-core assets inherited through the £277 million takeover of Bilton. The company hopes to realise £100 million from the disposal programme. Derek Wilson, Slough's chief executive, said that the sales were completed at book values and would allow resources to be focused on its core industrial portfolio.

Dragons takes flight

SHARES of Dragons Health Clubs gained 9½p to 199p yesterday after the AIM-listed fitness club operator reported a sharp jump in half-year profits. Pre-tax profits in the six months to January 31 rose 72 per cent to £600,000 from turnover 39 per cent higher at £4.64 million. Earnings per share reached 4.6p (3.3p) and the interim dividend is 1.05p (0.95p). Membership over the past 12 months has grown 30 per cent to 21,000 and the group is negotiating further acquisitions.

Bullying at work costs £1.3 billion in lost productivity

You can beat it with the help of this video-based training pack

- Produced in partnership with the TUC and endorsed by the CBI
- A step-by-step guide on how to tackle bullying in your organisation
- Only £795 plus carriage and VAT

To order or preview call 0870 400 1000 or return the coupon

Post to: Customer Centre, FREEPOST, The Industrial Society, B15 1TH

Name ____ Job title ____

Organisation ____

Address ____

____ Postcode ____

Tel no ____ T1

The Industrial Society

Campaigning to improve working life

Exclusive mortgage solutions, tailor-made for business people.

Freedman & Co. is a specialist, advice-based introducer of mortgages for company directors, senior executives, consultants and the self employed.

We do not offer standard off-the-peg mortgages for standard clients. Instead we provide a specialised service to people for whom issues such as income confidentiality and flexibility are as critical as rates of interest.

MORTGAGES WITH NO INCOME DETAILS NEEDED

FLEXIBLE CHEQUE BOOK MORTGAGES

CAPITAL RAISING RE-MORTGAGES

BUY TO LET MORTGAGES

For fast response and sound, professional advice to every enquiry:

Contact Freedman & Co. TD46

Call FREE on 0500 617151

Mortgage flexibility for business people



ALLIED DUNBAR

YOUR HOME IS AT RISK IF YOU DO NOT KEEP UP REPAYMENTS ON A MORTGAGE OR OTHER LOAN SECURED ON IT. SUITABLE SECURITY AND ASSURANCE. LIFE COVER MAY BE REQUIRED BY THE LENDER. FULL WRITTEN QUOTATIONS ON REQUEST.

The chief executive's new clothes



COMMENTARY
by our City Editor

Terry Leahy and his team at Tesco must be petrified. Just when it seemed that they had their leadership of the grocery market tied up, J Sainsbury is fighting back. No longer, it seems, is Dino Adriano going to allow Sainsbury's market share to ebb away, taking the group's share price. No, the Sainsbury chief executive has a plan: he is spending up to £100 million on a new corporate identity for the group.

This news will clearly take the gloss off the buoyant figures to be announced by Tesco today. The firm's sales growth is reckoned to be more than twice that of Sainsbury, but a new logo and a brighter staff uniform could soon change that.

There again, if the new look is as effective as Sainsbury's recent advertising campaign, it could simply amount to throwing money away. The chances are that when Lord Sainsbury of Preston Candover, the last chairman but one of the group, makes his regular sorties into the Stamford Street headquarters, he voices a degree of scepticism over the power of the design consultancy on which so much now seems to depend.

Sainsbury opted for a change of management style after Lord John's all-powerful grip on the business was removed. But where is the substance? Dino Adriano has axed a couple of directors, including finance director Rosemary Thorne, and he is now preparing to prune a few jobs from head office. Yet those moves, even when accompanied by something as drastic as abandoning the dingy brown livery, will not be enough to reinvigorate a company which looks increasingly to have lost its way.

Industry observers believe that the scale of the problems Sainsbury faces are not yet evident in the figures. They draw parallels with Marks & Spencer, where it was only after the succession row erupted onto the public stage that the full extent of the trading problems became apparent. Customer discontent had been mounting for several seasons at M&S but only now is a new chief executive able to admit the hit that will have on profits.

Investors in J Sainsbury must be fearful of similar, deep damage being inflicted on their business. And since the Sainsbury family still owns more than a third of the company, the members have reason to be worried about more than the family reputation. Sir Timothy Sainsbury, a former Industry Minister, remains a non-executive director but younger Sainsburys have chosen not to make their career in groceries. They must now be questioning whether they want their fortunes to depend on the industry in general or Mr Adriano in particular. But despite current speculation that they might wish to lessen their holdings in the company, it seems more likely that they might be looking for ways of restoring the bombed out share price, and even suggesting a few to chairman Sir George Bull.

The former Grand Metropolitan chairman has been living up to his non-executive status but a word with Lord John might encourage him to action.

Ford wants to be the one to trust

Ford is determined to siphon more from the motoring consumer than new cars ever can. It makes as much sense to add a new dimension by swallowing Kwik-Fit as it did to consolidate its share of the global car market via Volvo. Edinburgh's least likely multinational would become the junior in a stable headed by Ford Credit, which earned $1.1 billion last year, the only slightly smaller Visteon parts business and Hertz rentals. Sadly, Ford lacks the courage to sell its own cars to the public.

In Britain, especially, Ford relied too much on the fleet market, which is cutthroat and likely to suffer as ministers ratchet up corporate anti-car policies. Kwik-Fit knows and serves private motorists who cannot afford to write their cars off over three years.

Analysts are rich in praise of Sir Tom Farmer's personal creation. Unusally for the motor business, it has the trust of customers, who have no worries about being ripped off or kept waiting at others' convenience.

Perhaps for that reason, Kwik-Fit is unusually profitable. Imitators have either failed to make the same returns or sold to tyre companies, risking the value-for-money cachet of independence.

As Sir Tom's recent acquisition of a portfolio of units on the Continent showed, there is plenty of scope to roll out this successful formula, notably in America. Why then were Kwik- Fit shares selling at only 16 times earnings, a heavy discount to the market, before Ford hove up?

One reason may be that Kwik-Fit is seen as a one-man entrepreneurial business. Its hard-driving management style may work only because managers are inspired by one who, like most of them, started by carrying tyres.

The world is littered with such taut businesses that fell apart in the maw of a comfy multinational. Ford wants the boss to keep running. Much may depend on whether Sir Tom, at 58, wants to keep driving expansion or to try something else with his £75 million once contracts allow.

Without independence, Kwik-Fit could become just an outlet for Ford products or an element in global contracts with Ford suppliers. It would then quickly lose its customer franchise.

Competition authorities will want to examine such issues closely. They now see the highly profitable monopolistic position Coca-Cola has built up by controlling marketing, soft-drink bottling and distributions systems round the world. Both the UK and the European Union are making hostile inquiries into the restrictive agreements between motor manufacturers and supposedly independent dealers.

They ought to greet attempts to tie up other parts of the market with deepest suspicion.

Spreading expertise a little thinly

As non-executive directorships go, a place on the board of Goldman Sachs is something of a plum. How flattering to be an honorary recruit to the Masters of the Universe team. Sir John Browne clearly found it an offer he could not refuse.

But his decision to say "yes" does raise once more the question of just how far one man's business acumen can be stretched and also how closely linked companies should become with their outside advisers. With Peter Sutherland, head of Goldman's European business, also co-chairman of BP Amoco, the two are now fairly thick.

Sir John has a pretty big day job, as chief executive of the newly formed oil giant BP Amoco. He is prepared to sacrifice one of his existing non-executive posts, probably DaimlerChrysler, for the joys of joining Goldman, but that will still leave him with Intel and SmithKline Beecham.

When SmithKline was going through the fraught merger negotiations with Glaxo Wellcome, non-executives were called upon to invest many man hours in the eventually abortive deal. One of them, Sir Peter Walters, was simultaneously having to try to sort out the boardroom problems at EMI. Corporate complications do not occur on schedule.

The Association of British Insurers is concerned that some directors are taking on too many non-executive roles, although it has not been brave enough to declare a limit. Sir John, in any case, would be unlikely to have breached it numerically. But the caseload could be tough.

Memory crash

FORGET computers. They're old-fashioned hardware. With such reassuring thoughts, world stock markets shrugged off yesterday what seemed to be the biggest threat to the high-tech bubble for a while. Instant reaction to Friday's after hours revelations from Compaq, the number one PC manufacturer, was that quarterly profits at half market expectations spelt trouble. Not at all. Compaq was yesterday's story anyway. Investors are only interested in software. Wall Street surged. There's true confidence for you, or perhaps the over confidence that goes before a fall.

Takeover talks boost Laporte

By Paul Durman

LAPORTE, the specialty chemicals group, was forced to admit yesterday that it was in takeover talks, fuelling a rise of almost 30 per cent in its share price.

The bidder is believed to be Clariant of Switzerland, which at the weekend was reported to be considering an offer of 800p a share. That would value Laporte at almost £1.6 billion.

Laporte, which is being advised by Lazard Brothers, is still trying to agree a deal, but it is thought that it could be ready to make a full announcement later this week. A spokesman for Laporte said: "We certainly have not gone around soliciting offers."

Jim Leng, Laporte's chief executive, is believed to be frustrated by the out-of-favour chemicals sector. Although Laporte's shares reached 879p last year, within months they had slumped to less than 400p. They had recovered to 590½p before yesterday's announcement sent them climbing to 762½p.

Mr Leng has carried out a wide-ranging overhaul of Laporte's businesses since taking over from Ken Minton in 1995. Laporte was then a well-regarded company with a strong performance over many years. Mr Leng almost immediately prompted a collapse in the shares when he set about disposing of many of the group's underperforming businesses. By March last year, a third of the group he inherited had been sold or closed, and staff numbers had fallen by 40 per cent.

These changes have caused the return on sales to rise from 11 per cent to 16 per cent, and return on capital to increase from 17.5 per cent to 25 per cent. Last year Laporte expanded through the £611 million acquisition of Inspec, a manufacturer of pharmaceutical intermediates.

Last year it made pre-tax profits of £134 million, helped by a solid performance from its specialty organics division, which makes chemicals used in drugs, agrochemicals and food additives.

Confident Wardle lifts payout

By Matthew Barbour

WARDLE STOREYS, the plastics to parachutes company, lifted its interim dividend 8 per cent in anticipation of a "significantly stronger" second half despite flat first-half profits.

Brian Taylor, chief executive, said that while the group's inflatable systems and airborne systems divisions performed ahead of expectations, its technical products division had been hit by the strength of sterling and weaknesses in the automotive market. Profits in the latter division fell 43 per cent to £1.7 million on turnover which last year accounted for more than half of group sales, down 19 per cent to £25 million.

Pre-tax profits for the six months to February 28 fell slightly to £5.3 million (£5.4 million) on sales down 4 per cent at £56 million. Earnings per share are unchanged at 14p. The interim dividend has been raised to 7.5p (7.0p). The shares fell 10p to 410p.

Christmas cheer for HMV

By Robert Lea

HMV MEDIA, the Waterstone's and Dillons bookseller and HMV music retailer, reported yesterday that profits in the Christmas and January quarter grew 20 per cent.

The company, which is expected to be floated perhaps as early as the end of this year, said like-for-like sales in its third quarter to January 23 grew 4.5 per cent. HMV stores at 5.8 per cent outstripped the bookshops, which saw sales rise by just 1.7 per cent.

The company said the improvement came on the back of greater efficiencies flowing through the merger of the businesses — a joint venture between EMI and Tim Waterstone 14 months ago.

Turnover for the nine months is up nearly 6 per cent to £971 million with operating profits more than doubled to £77.6 million. After £46 million of finance charges, pre-tax profits came in at £31.5 million.

Century critical over bid's early backers

THE DIRECTORS of Century Inns, which last month fell to a hostile £78 million bid by Enterprise Inns, yesterday criticised its institutional shareholders for not giving them a chance to seek a higher offer (Dominic Walsh writes).

Pre-bid support garnered from shareholders such as M&G and Norwich Union let Enterprise strike with 51 per cent of Century in the bag, leaving it powerless to resist.

Eric Walters, Century's chairman, who is also a partner in Alchemy, the acquisitive venture capitalist, said that the board had previously received "other indications of interest . . . which may have realised improved value for shareholders". The support of those shareholders for Enterprise had prevented Century seeking a higher bid from third parties or from Enterprise.

The 499-pub Century yesterday unveiled half-year pre-tax profits up by 8 per cent, to £4.9 million. Up to 40 jobs will be lost after the takeover.

By the time you finish this sentence, 35 new people will have joined the Internet.

No wonder he demands his service provider displays this logo.



This month, 18 million people will go online for the first time. Next month? Probably more. The impact on your business will be huge. And your service provider will play a vital role in your success. But how do you choose the right one?

Fortunately, the answer is simple. Look for service providers who display the Cisco Powered Network logo. It means they employ Cisco technology, the same technology that carries virtually all of today's Internet traffic. They can help whether you need Internet access, ATM, Frame Relay, voice or any other network services.

Find out more about Cisco Systems and accredited service providers by visiting www.cisco-powered.net



©1999 Cisco Systems, Inc. All rights reserved.

STOCK MARKET SAEED SHAH



Dixons puts morning's pessimism in perspective

LAST week's party, which saw the FTSE and the Dow Jones industrial average hit all-time trading highs, threatened to come crashing down after Compaq, the US computer giant, issued a profits warning on Wall Street after the market closed on Friday.

With this in mind, London opened in pessimistic mood and was down 95.6 points by lunchtime, ahead of the New York opening. In the event, Wall Street decided that Compaq's troubles were isolated and better than expected trading enabled the FTSE to stage a partial recovery in the afternoon to close down 31.6 points at 6,441.2.

Much of this was down to **Dixons**, which livened up the afternoon with a 114p rise to £1564 — the biggest gain in the FTSE 100 — with the news that it is considering floating Freeserve, its Internet service provider.

Many other Internet-linked businesses were, however, down on the day. The telecom sector was hit with **COLT Telecom** down 44p to £12.20, **BT** down 8p to £10.72 and **Cable & Wireless** falling 15p to 792p.

Cable & Wireless Communications held its own — up 6p to 775p — on continuing hopes that it will be merged with rival **Telewest Communications**, which led the general telecoms slide falling 13p to 290p.

Internet provider **Easynet** fell 25p to 515p, pulled down by both the technology worries and by the prospect of a new Internet stock — Freeserve — drawing money away from its shares. But **Geo Interactive Media**, which provides software to service providers, pulled ahead 12p to 137p.

The playful side of computer technology was also exciting the London market. Computer games retailer **Electronics Boutique** confirmed its long-awaited bid for rival chain **Game**. The 134.3p a share offer — valuing game at £99 million — sent Game shares up 5p to 126p. But Electronics Boutique dipped 2p to 81p as the market pondered the cost of its acquisition.

Kwik-Fit provided some early support to the market, with the news of Ford's £1 billion agreed bid. The vehicle repair and maintenance company jumped 119½p to 541p. **Lex Service**, a company not dissimilar to Kwik-Fit, benefited from comparisons, lifting its share price 38½p to 469p.



Dave Beasant, the goalkeeper of Nottingham Forest, shares of which slipped 1½p to 25p after Nigel Wray resigned

Laporte, the chemicals company, gained 172½p to 762½p, after it confirmed reports that it is in takeover talks. The predator is thought to be Clariant, the Swiss chemicals company.

British Aerospace continued to benefit from the conflict in the Balkans as defence stocks again attracted interest. The shares were 9¼p dearer at 435½p.

AIM-listed **Pilat Technologies** managed a staggering 238 per cent rise to 35½p after it announced the first sales of its new Integrated Broadcast Management System to New Zealand broadcasters TVNZ and SkyNZ. It said that gross revenues from the deal were in the region of £1 million. Dealers said the sharp rise was caused by a stock shortage and the rise was not driven by fundamentals, as only five months ago the company issued a profits warning.

Banks also suffered from the early technology-related gloom, which was taken as a general bearish economic indicator. This was compounded in the afternoon with news of the interest rate cut by Halifax, seen as squeezing margins in the sector as others are bound to follow.

Banks had been particularly favoured in last week's bull run but yesterday they were prominent among the FTSE 100's losers. **Standard Chartered** was down 34½p to 979p, **Woolwich** 13½p lighter at 386½p, and **Barclays** 44p lower at £18.73. Only **Lloyds TSB** saw gains, up 25p to £10.20½, on decent volumes and rumours that it is still on the lookout for an acquisition.

Boots, the retailer, was boosted 8p to 841½p, after it announced an agreement to open its first store in Japan.

Newcastle United, the potential takeover of which by cable company NTL was referred to the Competition Commission on Friday, pulled ahead on the back of its FA Cup semi-final victory at the weekend. The shares closed up 6p to 81p — an 8 per cent rise. Other football stocks were on the losing side. **Nottingham Forest's** chairman, Nigel Wray, resigned knocking 1½p off its shares to 25p. **Tottenham Hotspur** — out of the Cup — was 5p cheaper at 67½p, **Celtic**, 22½p lower at 305p and **Manchester United** dipped ½p to 185p — after drawing in the other semi-final against Arsenal.

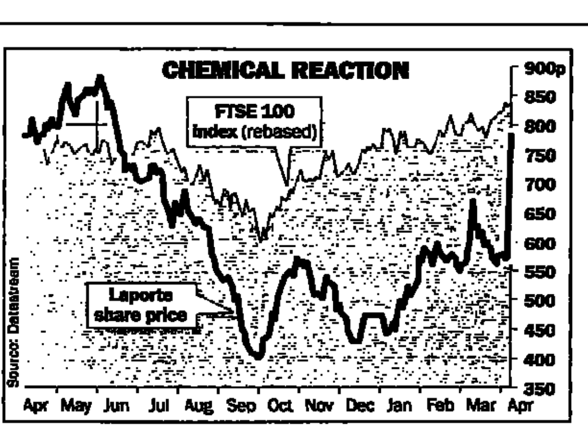
□ **GILT-EDGED**: Liffe announced that the number of government bond futures traded on the debut of its new electronic system, called Connect, had exceeded expectations.

Liffe's survival as a top exchange depends on whether customers stick with it as it introduces the electronic system.

An era ended at Liffe on Friday, with traders identified by different coloured jackets, marking the closure of the pit for gilt trading by cheering and singing *Rule Britannia*.

In the futures market, the June series of the long gilt finished down 2p at £118.28.

□ **NEW YORK**: US shares were mixed in early trading. At midday the Dow Jones industrial average was up 35.52 points to 10,209.36.



SHARES in Laporte almost caught up with the market average yesterday, having trailed the index along with other chemical companies since June.

The chemicals sector has been bombed out for at least the past nine months, but a breakout of merger and acquisition activity has increased interest. It suffered badly from the global downturn and the strength of sterling, but with international markets now steadying some analysts are saying that chemicals are ripe for recovery — at least those companies at the specialty end of the business.

Albright & Wilson, the subject of takeover interest was unchanged at 151½p. The intermediate chemicals strength of BTP, up 21½p at 369p, makes it look an attractive target. Croda International, up 14p at 238½p, could also generate a bid.

But Yorkshire Group, in the textile dyeing segment of the industry, revealed a further deterioration in trading conditions and saw its shares fall 7p to 103½p.

MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):
Dow Jones 10209.36 (+35.52)
S&P Composite 1345.24 (−3.11)

Tokyo:
Nikkei Average 16507.40 (−348.23)

Hong Kong:
Hang Seng 11744.74 (−169.36)

Amsterdam:
AEX Index 523.17 (−1.56)

Sydney:
AO 3038.2 (−21.8)

Frankfurt:
DAX 5159.16 (+34.98)

Singapore:
Straits 1661.28 (−3.98)

Brussels:
BEL20 3323.59 (−7.00)

Paris:
CAC-40 4355.00 (−8.14)

Zurich:
SMI Index 7352.9 (−34.0)

London:

Index	Value
FT 30	3936.6 (−5.6)
FTSE 100	6441.2 (−31.6)
FTSE 250	5558.9 (−4.6)
FTSE 350	3056.8 (−13.1)
FTSE Eurotop 100	2996.34 (−7.42)
FTSE All-Share	2956.36 (−12.43)
FTSE Non Financials	2959.40 (−11.33)
FTSE Fixed Interest	155.84 (−0.01)
FTSE Govt Secs	114.44 (−0.25)
Bargains	83144
SEAQ Volume	870.8m
US$	1.6150 (+0.0092)
Euro	0.6718 (+0.0007)
£:SDR	1.1843
Exchange Index	102.7 (+0.1)

Bank on England official close (4pm)
RPI 163.7 Feb (2.1%) Jan 1987 = 100
RPIX 162.3 Feb (2.4%) Jan 1987 = 100

RECENT ISSUES

Issue	Price	+/−	Chg
BGI Endowment III	102		...
Br Smaller Co's VCT (100)	95		...
Br Smlr Cos VCT Wrts	12½		...
Cairngorm Euro Restruct	111	−	1
Cairngorm Restruct Wrts	19½	−	3½
Edinburgh Inc & Val	105½		...
Edinburgh Val Zero Dv Pf	102½	−	½
Enhanced Zero Trust	99¾		...
Gartmore High Income	108		...
Gartmore Zero Div Pf	106¾		...
Luminar Warrants	265	+	7½
M Currie Cap Return	77	+	½
M Currie Portfolio	79¾		...
Mercury Asset Allocator	106½	+	1
Morse Holdings	234	−	1
NBA Quantum	110		...
Sherry FitzGerald	155		...
Sports Internet	131½	−	2½

RIGHTS ISSUES

Issue	Price	+/−	Chg
Calluna n/p (125)	1¼		...
Holmes Place n/p (275)	16½	+	2½
Mice Group n/p (80)	18	−	3
VersaliteANL (05)	1	+	¼

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:

Stock	Close	Chng	Chng%
Laporte	762½	+172	+ 29.1
James R Knowles	42½	+ 8½	+ 25.0
Minorplanet	114	+ 20½	+ 21.9
Sothebys	2000	+287½	+ 16.7
French	28½	+ 4	+ 16.3
Arlen	25½	+ 3½	+ 15.9
MY Holdings	89½	+ 9½	+ 11.8
Clubhaus	69½	+ 7	+ 11.2
Infobank Intl	95	+ 9½	+ 11.1
Rosebys	100½	+ 10	+ 11.0
Inner Workings	21½	+ 2	+ 10.2
Citadel	110½	+ 9½	+ 9.4
Fine Art Dev	117½	+ 10	+ 9.3
Kenwood App	68½	+ 5	+ 7.8
Dixons Grp	1564	+114	+ 7.8
Internet Tech	186	+ 12	+ 6.8
Dewhirst	86½	+ 5½	+ 6.7
Sappi	291	+ 18¼	+ 6.6

FALLS:

Stock	Close	Chng	Chng%
Chesterton Intl	20½	− 2½	− 10.8
Oxford Molecular	59½	− 6½	− 9.8
Thomson Corp	1892	−172½	− 8.3
SkyePharma	69	− 6	− 8.0
Superscape VR	143½	− 11½	− 7.4
JBA Hldgs	142	− 11	− 7.1
Wood (Arthur)	91	− 7	− 7.1
JWE Telecom	160	− 12	− 6.9

TEMPUS

Watered down expectations

WATER company shares have fallen, on average, by about 15 per cent this calendar year. This is during a period when the UK stock market average has risen by about 11 per cent.

At current levels water company shares trade on historic price-earnings multiples of less than ten. Dividend yields, before tax, sit at 6 per cent-plus. To some, this represents a straightforward buying opportunity. The bulls maintain that the worries about the stiffer regulatory framework — commented on by Anglian, Hyder and Yorkshire Water yesterday — are overdone. The regulator's bark, fans say, is likely to be much more frightening than its bite. Inevitable horse trading is bound to leave the firms in a much better final position than may seem likely at present.

Supporters also believe that water company shares have come under pressure as investors have sold to raise cash to buy into sectors with more exciting growth potential.

There is substance in the arguments. But while the perception of the impact of the regulatory review may be misinformed, the perception exists and is likely to damage sentiment for as long as the uncertainty persists — and that will be for six months or so. Not only that, but the regulator may bite as badly as he threatens he will. If he does, the juicy looking dividend yields may prove a mirage as companies are forced to cut payouts to fund infrastrucute expenditure.

The prospects for capital growth among water company shares remains doubtful, at least in the short term. If there is value to be had, however, it is most obvious in firms with sustainable non-water interests, such as Thames Water and Pennon.

Electra

D-DAY approaches for investors in the Electra Investment Trust. On Thursday they meet to vote on Electra's independence plan. The fate of a hostile takeover bid from rival venture capital specialist 3i also rests on the vote because, if Electra's proposals are rejected, shareholders will tacitly endorse 3i, although the formal vote on its bid comes later.

As decision time draws nearer, the dirty tricks brigade has been out in force. Aspersions have been cast, and rejected, about the cause and sustainability of last week's rise in the value of 3i shares. The 3i price is important because it affects the implied value of 3i's cash and share offer. But while 3i shares spiked surprisingly last week, the longer-term outlook for 3i stock is stouter than for Electra.

Investors may have been encouraged by news yesterday that two of Electra's unquoted investments may be sold soon, with a decently uplifting effect on its net asset value. But this does not amount to new news: an informed observer could have deduced that a sale was in the offing from reading Electra's tender offer document. And no deal is yet finalised. The implication that disposals such as this show the meanness of 3i's offer is no surprise either. The merit of the 3i offer is not that it values Electra generously. Rather, the likelihood is that the market will value Electra much more harshly as an independent entity.

It is a finely balanced decision but the 3i option represents the better one.

A CAPITAL VENTURE
3i Group
Electra Investment Trust
Source: Datastream
800p 750 700 650 600 550 500 450 400 350 300 250
1994 1995 1996 1997 1998 1999

British Land

BRITISH LAND, no slouch at reading markets, is planning to raise £1.5 billion at just over 6 per cent, secured on the income of its Broadgate properties. The fund-raising follows the Canary Wharf securitisation which itself was a record at just £550 million. There is clearly appetite for property debt with good income covenants.

The two estates are not dissimilar, both let in large part to banks and geared as much to the fortunes of Wall Street as the UK economy. But British Land has wisely rejected the option of floating off a stake in Broadgate in the manner of the Canary. With property shares still valued at discounts to net worth, who would want a discount on a discount?

Broadgate's supporters sneer at the Canary, out on a limb in the East End, but at its inception, Broadgate's Liverpool Street location was seen as a fringe development.

Yet the biggest threat to Broadgate is probably not the towers in Docklands but the planners at the City Corporation who appear ready to let loose a construction tide in the Square Mile in order to keep banks and jobs from moving to Frankfurt.

Nevertheless, British Land should have a few good years of rental growth at Broadgate and the refinancing frees resources for other projects. Hold.

Electronics Boutique

THIS computer games retailer has got a bargain with its acquisition of Game for just £99.2 million. Admittedly, Game was having problems — poor management of stock shortages over Christmas was one — but many will be surprised that the company's board recommended an offer of just 134.3p a share.

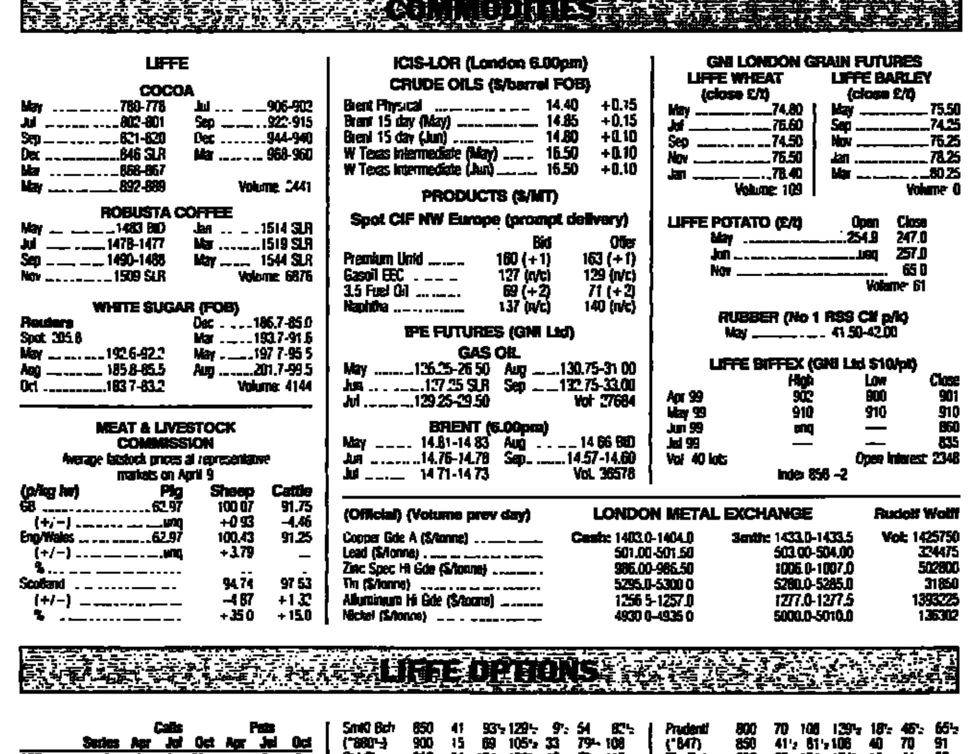
Yes, Game's shares have halved in value since coming to market last year but the company is no basket case. It is profitable and has good, well-placed outlets.

The bargain basement price, however, does not necessarily mean Game shareholders are being short changed. Those who opt to be paid in EB shares can continue to benefit from the upside, and the assets will be better managed to boot. The combined business will be a powerful market leader in the British computer games retailing. EB is also set to move into France, where the market is far less developed.

The market is likely to hot up even more thanks to the release of titles based on the new *Star Wars* film, and the launch of the Sega Dreamcast. All this makes EB's shares — currently 81½p, or 25 times historic earnings — look attractive. EB is not without risk, but worth a punt.

EDITED BY ROBERT COLE

COMMODITIES



LIFFE

COCOA

Month	Price	Month	Price
May	780-778	Jul	906-902
Jul	802-801	Sep	922-915
Sep	821-820	Dec	944-940
Dec	846 SLR	Mar	968-960
Mar	868-867		
May	892-889	Volume:	2441

ROBUSTA COFFEE

Month	Price	Month	Price
May	1483 BID	Jan	1514 SLR
Jul	1478-1477	Mar	1519 SLR
Sep	1490-1488	May	1544 SLR
Nov	1509 SLR	Volume:	6876

WHITE SUGAR (FOB)

Reuters			
		Dec	186.7-85.0
Spot	205.8	Mar	193.7-91.6
May	192.6-92.2	May	197.7-95.5
Aug	185.8-85.5	Aug	201.7-99.5
Oct	183.7-83.2	Volume:	4144

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION
Average fatstock prices at representative markets on April 9

(p/kg lw)	Pig	Sheep	Cattle
GB	62.97	100.07	91.75
(+/−)	unq	+0.93	−4.46
Eng/Wales	62.97	100.43	91.25
(+/−)	unq	+3.79	—
%		..	.
Scotland		94.74	97.53
(+/−)		−4.87	+1.32
%		+35.0	+15.0

ICIS-LOR (London 6.00pm)
CRUDE OILS ($/barrel FOB)

Brent Physical	14.40	+0.15
Brent 15 day (May)	14.85	+0.15
Brent 15 day (Jun)	14.80	+0.10
W Texas Intermediate (May)	16.50	+0.10
W Texas Intermediate (Jun)	16.50	+0.10

PRODUCTS ($/MT)
Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)

	Bid	Offer
Premium Unld	160 (+1)	163 (+1)
Gasoil EEC	127 (n/c)	129 (n/c)
3.5 Fuel Oil	69 (+2)	71 (+2)
Naphtha	137 (n/c)	140 (n/c)

IPE FUTURES (GNI Ltd)
GAS OIL

Month	Price	Month	Price
May	136.25-26.50	Aug	130.75-31.00
Jun	127.25 SLR	Sep	132.75-33.00
Jul	129.25-29.50	Vol:	27684

BRENT (6.00pm)

Month	Price	Month	Price
May	14.81-14.83	Aug	14.66 BID
Jun	14.76-14.78	Sep	14.57-14.60
Jul	14.71-14.73	Vol.	36578

GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

LIFFE WHEAT (close £/t)		LIFFE BARLEY (close £/t)	
May	74.80	May	75.50
Jul	76.60	Sep	74.25
Sep	74.50	Nov	76.25
Nov	76.50	Jan	78.25
Jan	78.40	Mar	80.25
Volume:	109	Volume:	0

LIFFE POTATO (£/t)

	Open	Close
May	254.9	247.0
Jun	unq	257.0
Nov		65.0
Volume:		61

RUBBER (No 1 RSS CIf p/k)
May 41.50-42.00

LIFFE BIFFEX (GNI Ltd $10/pt)

	High	Low	Close
Apr 99	902	900	901
May 99	910	910	910
Jun 99	unq	—	860
Jul 99	—	—	835
Vol: 40 lots		Open Interest:	2348

Index 858 −2

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE (Official) (Volume prev day) Rudolf Wolff

	Cash	3mth	Vol
Copper Gde A ($/tonne)	1403.0-1404.0	1433.0-1433.5	1425750
Lead ($/tonne)	501.00-501.50	503.00-504.00	324475
Zinc Spec Hi Gde ($/tonne)	986.00-986.50	1006.0-1007.0	502800
Tin ($/tonne)	5295.0-5300.0	5280.0-5285.0	31850
Aluminium Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1256.5-1257.0	1277.0-1277.5	1393225
Nickel ($/tonne)	4930.0-4935.0	5000.0-5010.0	136302

LIFFE OPTIONS

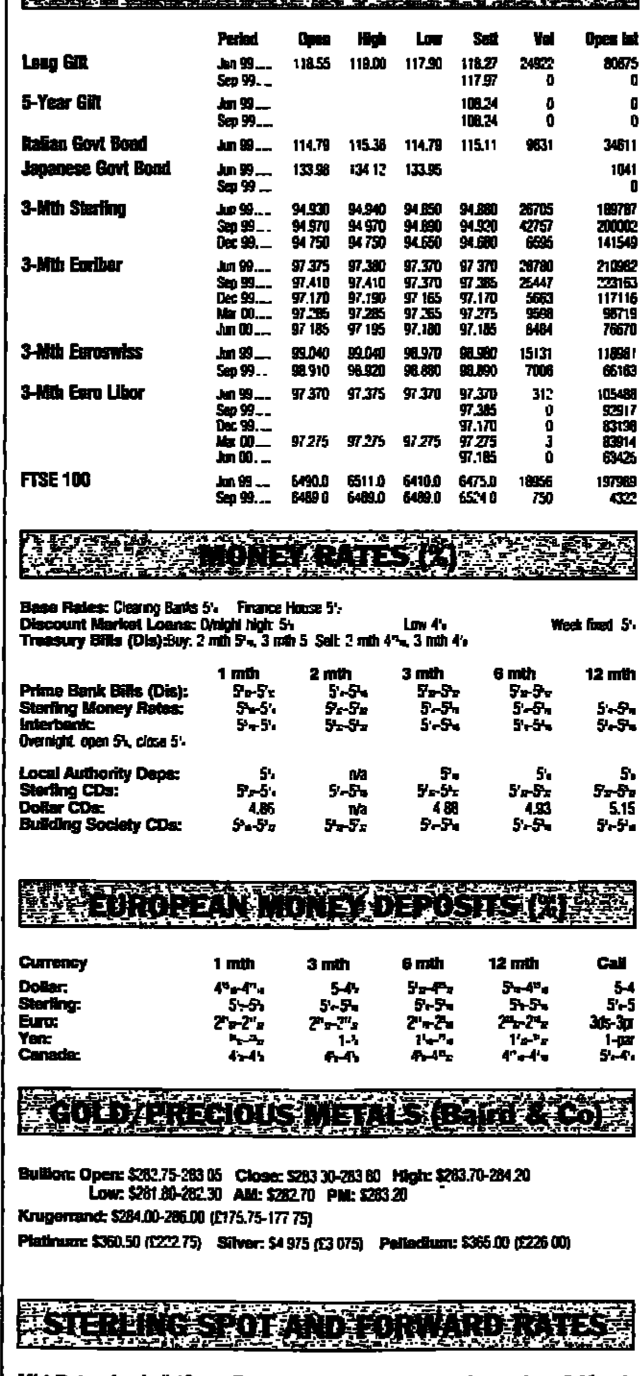
	Series	Calls Apr	Calls Jul	Calls Oct	Puts Apr	Puts Jul	Puts Oct
ASDA	140	10½	19	23	1	8	13
(*149½)	160	1	9	14½	11½	17½	24
Abbey Nat	1300	60½	132	169	14½	70	103
[illegible]							

	Series	Calls			Puts		
SmKl Bch	850	41	93½	129½	9½	54	82½
(*880½)	900	15	69	105½	33	79½	108
Std Char	950	51	124	168½	18	79	119
(*979)	1000	25½	102½	148	43½	106	146½
Thames W	900	21	63½	78	9	53	71
[illegible]							

	Series	Calls			Puts		
Prudentl	800	70	108	139½	18½	46½	65½
(*847)	850	41½	81½	108	40	70	91
Rio Tinto	850	69	104	124½	15	44	80
(*899)	900	40	78½	99½	36	66	85
R-Royce	360	17	29½	37	9	18½	25
[illegible]							

April 12 Total: 2033 Calls: 975 Puts: 1058 *Underlying security price

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES



	Period	Open	High	Low	Sett	Vol	Open Int
Long Gilt	Jun 99	118.55	119.00	117.90	118.27	24922	80675
	Sep 99				117.97	0	0
5-Year Gilt	Jun 99				108.24	0	0
	Sep 99				108.24	0	0
Italian Govt Bond	Jun 99	114.79	115.36	114.79	115.11	9631	34611
Japanese Govt Bond	Jun 99	133.98	134.12	133.95			1041
	Sep 99						0
3-Mth Sterling	Jun 99	94.930	94.940	94.850	94.880	26705	189787
	Sep 99	94.970	94.970	94.890	94.920	42757	200002
	Dec 99	94.750	94.750	94.650	94.680	6595	141549
3-Mth Euribor	Jun 99	97.375	97.380	97.370	97.370	26780	210982
	Sep 99	97.410	97.410	97.370	97.385	25447	223163
	Dec 99	97.170	97.190	97.165	97.170	5663	117116
	Mar 00	97.285	97.285	97.265	97.275	9598	98719
	Jun 00	97.185	97.195	97.180	97.185	8484	76670
3-Mth Euroswiss	Jun 99	99.040	99.040	98.970	98.980	15131	118981
	Sep 99	98.910	98.920	98.880	98.890	7006	66163
3-Mth Euro Libor	Jun 99	97.370	97.375	97.370	97.370	312	105488
	Sep 99				97.385	0	92917
	Dec 99				97.170	0	83138
	Mar 00	97.275	97.275	97.275	97.275	3	83914
	Jun 00				97.185	0	69425
FTSE 100	Jun 99	6490.0	6511.0	6410.0	6475.0	18956	197989
	Sep 99	6489.0	6489.0	6489.0	6524.0	750	4322

MONEY RATES (%)

Base Rates: Clearing Banks 5¼ Finance House 5½
Discount Market Loans: O/night high: 5½ Low 4¾ Week fixed 5¼
Treasury Bills (Dis): Buy: 2 mth 5⅛, 3 mth 5 Sell: 2 mth 4⅞, 3 mth 4⅞

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Prime Bank Bills (Dis):	5⅜-5¼	5¼-5⅛	5⅜-5¼	5⅜-5¼	
Sterling Money Rates:	5⅜-5¼	5⅜-5⅛	5¼-5⅛	5¼-5⅛	5¼-5⅛
Interbank:	5⅜-5¼	5⅜-5¼	5¼-5⅛	5¼-5⅛	5¼-5⅛

Overnight: open 5½, close 5¼

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Local Authority Deps:	5¼	n/a	5⅛	5¼	5⅛
Sterling CDs:	5⅜-5¼	5¼-5⅛	5⅜-5¼	5⅜-5¼	5⅜-5¼
Dollar CDs:	4.86	n/a	4.88	4.93	5.15
Building Society CDs:	5⅜-5⅜	5⅜-5¼	5¼-5⅛	5¼-5⅛	5¼-5⅛

EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS (%)

Currency	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth	Call
Dollar:	4⅞-4¾	5-4⅞	5⅛-4⅞	5¼-4⅞	5-4
Sterling:	5⅜-5¼	5¼-5⅛	5¼-5⅛	5¼-5⅛	5¼-5
Euro:	2⅞-2⅞	2⅞-2⅞	2⅞-2¾	2⅞-2¾	3ds-3pr
Yen:	⅛-⅛	1-⅛	1⅛-⅛	1⅛-⅞	1-par
Canada:	4¾-4⅝	4⅝-4½	4⅝-4½	4⅝-4½	5¼-4¼

GOLD/PRECIOUS METALS (Baird & Co)

Bullion: Open: $282.75-283.05 **Close:** $283.30-283.80 **High:** $283.70-284.20
Low: $281.80-282.30 **AM:** $282.70 **PM:** $283.20
Krugerrand: $284.00-286.00 (£175.75-177.75)
Platinum: $360.50 (£222.75) **Silver:** $4.975 (£3.075) **Palladium:** $365.00 (£226.00)

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Mkt Rates for April 12	Range	Close	1 month	3 Month
Copenhagen	11.043-11.090	11.060-11.072	¼-⅛pr	⅝-½pr
Euro	1.4877-1.4897	1.4880-1.4894	0.13-0.16pr	0.40-0.44pr
Montreal	2.4111-2.4240	2.4111-2.4142	0.15-0.08pr	0.38-0.24pr
New York	1.6143-1.6170	1.6143-1.6153	0.006-0.004pr	0.108-0.077pr
Oslo	12.467-12.536	12.472-12.487	⅛-¼ds	¼-½ds
Stockholm	13.304-13.365	13.340-13.365	⅜-¼pr	⅞-¾pr
Tokyo	193.59-194.70	193.87-194.11	⅞-¾pr	2½-2¾pr
Zurich	2.3805-2.3894	2.3850-2.3881	1-⅞pr	2⅝-2½pr

Source: Extel Premium = pr Discount = ds

DOLLAR RATES

Australia	1.5728-1.5740
Canada	1.4950-1.4960
Denmark	6.8446-6.8486
Euro	0.9197-0.9225
Hong Kong	7.7485-7.7490
Japan	119.91-120.01
Malaysia	3.8000-3.8001
Norway	7.7240-7.7265
Singapore	1.7220-1.7230
Sweden	8.2560-8.2660
Switzerland	1.4767-1.4777

OTHER STERLING

Argentina peso*	1.6135-1.6145
Australia dollar	2.5393-2.5429
Bahrain dinar	0.6010-0.6162
Brazil real*	2.7525-2.7625
Cyprus pound	0.8520-0.8734
Euro	1.4863-1.4888
Finland markka	8.7848-8.9477
Greece drachma	477.50-489.50
Hong Kong dollar	12.5115-12.5201
India rupee	68.09-69.81
Indonesia rupiah	13755.0-14455.0
Kuwait dinar KD	0.4865-0.4989
Malaysia ringgit	6.1359-6.1398
New Zealand dollar	2.9748-2.9793
Pakistan rupee	79.15 Buy
Saudi Arabia riyal	5.8050-5.9522
Singapore dollar	2.7805-2.7844
S Africa rand	9.8290-10.0808
U A E dirham	5.8575-6.0061

Barclays Treasury * Lloyds Bank

FTSE VOLUMES

3i	615	Kingfisher	5,918
ASDA Gp	12,816	Ladbroke	29,495
Abbey Ntl	1,397	Land Secs	1,635
Allnce & Leic	2,724	Legal & Gn	1,023
Allied Dom	6,133	Lloyds TSB	10,970
Allied Zrch	3,371	Marks Spr	4,968
Amvescap	905	Misys	2,229
AB Foods	634	Nat Grid	3,029
AstraZeneca	2,636	Nat Power	2,804
Bk of Scot	4,134	NatWst Bk	1,728
BAA	1,287	Norwich Un	2,147
Barclays	3,965	Orange	1,601
Bass	2,129	P & O	2,855
BG	14,992	Pearson	1,644
Billiton	3,895	PowerGen	1,637
BOC	1,319	Prudential	3,140
Boots	3,463	Railtrack	1,588
BP Amoco	10,200	Reckitt Col	933
BAe	3,518	Reed Intl	3,096
BA	8,334	Rentokil	3,188
Brt Am Tob	2,211	Reuters	2,794
Brt Energy	2,303	Rio Tinto	2,063
BSkyB	4,213	Rolls Royce	5,443
BT	8,392	Ryl & Sun	1,899
BTR Siebe	4,084	Ryl Bk Sct	5,620
CGU	1,746	SA Breweries	306
COLT Telecom	1,185	Sainsbury	8,594
Cable Wire	4,641	Schroders	380
Cadbury	3,414	Scot & New	3,813
Carlton Cms	1,351	Scot Sthn Engy	3,589
Centrica	7,131	Scot Power	2,639
Compass Gp	721	Securicor	825
Daily Mail A	57	Sema Gp	511
Diageo	5,787	Svrn Trent	1,727
Dixons Grp	2,710	Shell Trans	10,940
EMAP	384	Smiths Ind	2,282
EMI	1,584	SmKl Bch	4,894
Energis	872	Stagecoach	4,085
Gen Elec	2,464	Std Chartd	2,412
GKN	1,005	Sun Life	1,438
Glaxo Well	5,570	TeleWest	2,088
Granada	2,372	Tesco	33,242
GUS	2,378	Thames W	307
GRE	904	Unilever	5,247
Hanson	954	Utd News	594
ICI	1,043	Utd Utilities	1,125
Imperial Tob	1,070	Vodafone	6,897
HSBC	3,263	WPP	1,315
Halifax	5,109	Whitbread	846
Hays	2,035	Woolwich	47,606

WALL STREET

	Apr 12 midday	Apr 9 close
AEP	40	40
[illegible]		

هكذا من الاصل

ECONOMIC VIEW  ANATOLE KALETSKY

The dilemma of unleashing a Lawson-style explosion

Sometime in the coming months, the difference between British and European rates will widen further

STERLING, INTEREST RATES AND ECONOMIC GROWTH

STERLING EXCHANGE RATES

DM per pound (Right-hand scale)

Dollars per pound (Left-hand scale)

5.50 5.00 4.50 4.00 3.50 3.00 2.50 2.00 — 2.60 2.40 2.20 2.00 1.80 1.60 1.40 1.20 1.00

79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99

DIFFERENCE BETWEEN BRITISH AND GERMAN GROWTH RATES

Change in UK GDP minus change in German GDP over four quarters

5 % 4 3 2 1 0 -1 -2 -3 -4 -5

79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98

SPREAD BETWEEN BRITISH AND GERMAN INTEREST RATES

Three-month Euro-sterling minus three-months Euro-deutschemarks

12 % 10 8 6 4 2 0 -2 -4

79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99

Source: DATASTREAM

Thinking about the financial implications of last Thursday's rate cuts in Europe and Britain I was suddenly struck by an unexpected thought. Could the world economy, and particularly the British economy, now be threatened by a rerun of the late 1980s? This was the period when the Bundesbank's delayed and reluctant response to a slowdown in the European economy and an international financial crisis set off a chain reaction of global instability and currency misalignments and eventually triggered a moderate, but nonetheless disruptive, inflationary boom and bust. In Britain, 1987-88 is remembered even more painfully as the year when Nigel Lawson became suddenly obsessed with trying to take sterling into the European exchange-rate mechanism, or at least to direct British monetary policy at "shadowing" the mark. Could central bankers in Britain and Europe make some of the same mistakes in the next few months?

Thursday's rate cuts by the Bank of England and the European Central Bank drew attention to several interesting analogies between economic conditions today and in the late 1980s.

Consider first some of the similarities in the global environment. Firstly the world economy was recovering, then as now, from a frightening financial crisis (the 1987 stock market crash), which had produced a sharp, but temporary, fall in financial confidence in Britain and America, but actually did more economic damage to Germany and Japan. (The real economic damage done in the 1987 crash was due to sharp appreciation of the mark and the yen after the Wall Street crash). Then, as now, the initial economic dislocation that preceded the financial crisis was related to deflationary conditions in developing countries (the Latin American debt crises and the collapse in the price of oil in 1985).

Then, as now, there was a stark contrast between the attitudes of the German and American central banks to the mid-cycle economic slowdown and threat of deflation. (It is worth recalling that in 1986 price inflation actually fell below zero for the first and only time in Germany's history.) The Federal Reserve Board cut interest rates quite aggressively in mid-1985 and went on cutting until the autumn of 1986, resulting in a peak to trough fall of almost 4 percentage points. The Bundesbank, by contrast, cut interest rates much more slowly in 1985 and refused to budge any further from the autumn onwards. Throughout 1986, as the Fed was aggressively easing monetary policy, the Bundesbank maintained its "steady hand" approach.

Then, as now, the result of the Bundesbank's refusal to pursue a policy of monetary expansion, was a dramatic slowdown in European growth. Then, as now, this slowdown occurred at the worst possible time, when European unemployment was already quite high, when the US trade gap was already alarmingly wide and when stimulative monetary policies were successfully reigniting growth in America and Britain, thereby adding to the trade imbalance.

But why bring all this up today? After all, hasn't the European Central Bank finally eased interest rates and much more aggressively than expected? Yes — but. The "but" relates to the foolish conditions attached to its rate cut by the ECB. Instead of openly admitting that it is now in the business of promoting European growth and promising to continue easing monetary policy for as long as it takes to revive European growth and employment, the ECB has publicly promised to take no further action. In its official rhetoric the ECB has faithfully mimicked the contemptuous attitude towards "contra-cyclical monetary policy" that was always the ideological hallmark of the Bundesbank. How nostalgically redolent of the late unlamented Bundesbank were the words of Wim Duisenberg last Thursday when he announced his rate cut: "With the greatest force I can put in my voice, I want to deny that we have changed our strategy in any way — we are not pursuing a cyclically oriented policy."

By refusing to follow the example of the Fed and the Bank of England, which have effectively reassured businessmen and consumers in their countries that demand will be stabilised and recession avoided at all cost, the ECB, like the Bundesbank before it, has diminished the economic effectiveness of its own monetary easing. As a result, last week's rate cut, generous as it was, is unlikely to restore business confidence quickly in Europe. And continuing declines in confidence will put pressure on the ECB to ease still further — a pressure to which it will ultimately succumb. Because it insists on cutting interest rates too late, it will finally cut them by too much. Returning to history, this is exactly what the Bundesbank was finally forced to do in early 1988, as the mark soared against the dollar and European business confidence collapsed. The result of the Bundesbank's untimely and erratic actions in the late 1980s was to exacerbate both the mid-cycle slowdown of 1986-87 and the increasingly inflationary recovery of 1988-89, which created the worst possible conditions for the reunification boom. Another even more spectacular example of the damage done by tardy and reluctant central banking has been visible in Japan since 1995. The danger now is that the ECB will repeat the same pattern of errors — first waiting too long before easing, then undermining confidence in its own actions by calling a premature halt to further rate cuts, and finally being forced to cut interest rates anyway and doing too much.

There are, of course, many reasons why Europe is unlikely to experience an inflation boom in the foreseeable future. There is no shock comparable to German reunification on the horizon. Europe is going through a period of aggressive competitive adjustment. And the general condition of the world economy is probably more deflationary today than it was in the mid-1980s. Nevertheless, misjudged and erratic policies by the ECB could do a great deal of harm, not only to Europe, but also to its trading partners around the world.

This brings me back to Britain. Apart from all the worldwide parallels with the late 1980s already noted, three more parochial similarities are worth noting. First there is the state of the domestic economy, which now seems to be on the verge of a major revival in demand, after flirting with a recessionary threat whose seriousness was overestimated by most commentators, just as it was in 1986-87. Secondly, there is the high level of worldwide confidence in British economic management and political stability. This confidence may or may not be justified, but just as in the late 1980s, it is at least a temporary fact of British life. Thirdly, and most importantly, there is a potential conflict, with major political connotations, between the monetary policies of Britain and the rest of Europe.

To see what I mean by this last factor, one need only think ahead to the interest rate decisions of the Bank of England and the ECB during the rest of this year. The ECB's next move, if there is another this year, will almost certainly be a further cut. The Bank, by contrast, will probably start raising rates sometime this year, even if it does make one further rate cut before the summer (which I personally rather doubt). Sometime in the coming months, therefore, the difference between British and European interest rates will widen further, yet even as this monetary gap widens, Britain's domestic economic growth will accelerate. This will create the classic conditions for a further hardening of sterling, at a time when British industry is demanding a weaker pound and government ministers are quietly promising to deliver exactly this by joining the single currency. But the more the pound rises, and the wider grows the gap between British and European interest rates, the harder it will be to take sterling into EMU at a comfortably low rate.

The Government and the Bank of England will then be faced with an all too familiar dilemma. Should Britain's monetary policy "shadow" the policy in Europe at the risk of unleashing a Lawson-style boom? Should British industry be exposed to the disciplines of an even stronger pound? Or should we just jump into EMU at whatever happen to be the prevailing interest and exchange rates and just hope for the best best, as John Major did when he joined the ERM? Whatever happens, we should not forget what happened in the years after 1988.

anatole.kaletsky@the-times.co.uk

Baby boom crucial to Boeing's hopes of regeneration

Arthur Leathley asks whether sales of the 717 will fly as the US group fights back against Airbus

Rarely has a baby carried so much responsibility, so many hopes and fears on its shoulders. Or, to be more precise, on its wings.

The infant burdened with such high expectation is the "Baby Boeing", a 100-seat aircraft designed for a market that is potentially huge, but as yet relatively unproven. The latest creation of Boeing, the beleaguered US aircraft maker, must succeed in blazing a trail in the short-hop commuter market.

Its task is to convince airlines across the globe that there is a long-lasting demand for a 100-seat jet offering much of the comfort of larger aircraft but with greater frequency and less noise.

The Baby Boeing — or 717-200 — certainly cannot afford to fail. It comes to the market at a time of continuing uncertainty for Boeing's 238,000 staff following last year's announcement that some 50,000 jobs must be cut this year.

Boeing has been the focus of unwelcome attention about its poor productivity, management and financial position, having plunged into loss for the first time in 50 years.

Although Boeing is on course to deliver 620 aircraft this year, 70 up on 1998, analysts remain worried about the short-term direction of the world's biggest aircraft maker.

Crucial discussions are about to begin with unions over the job losses, and strikes are a possibility.

In addition, a huge management shake-up last year has not ended the turmoil at the top of the company. With earnings expected to be lower than originally forecast, at £1.1billion, shareholders are looking for early signs of an upturn in the face of an increasingly aggressive challenge from Airbus Industrie, the four-nation European consortium.

While Airbus remains well behind Boeing in deliveries — 229 in 1998 — its order book is growing markedly, up to 556 last year. Such progress sends shudders through US investors used to Boeing's world dominance.

Nick Heymann, senior vice-president of Prudential Securities, the Wall Street broker, said: "There is no doubt that Boeing has a lot of ground to make up. No one really thinks the changes of managers have completed the job, so there is a great deal of doubt over the direction of the firm over the next two years."

Whether the 717 will fulfil investors' hopes remains an open question. Phil Condit, Boeing's chairman, last week at least allayed some fears by confirming that the 717 programme would continue despite disappointing orders.

Publicly, Boeing executives are buoyant about the sleek newcomer. But privately, they admit that they had hoped that the sales figure, standing at 115, would have passed 200 by the time the aircraft makes its appearance at the Paris Air Show in June.

The importance of the 717 is underlined by the fact that, in a ten-day, whistle-stop tour immediately after the show, senior Boeing executives will take their baby to most of Europe's leading capitals.

While US carriers, TWA and AirTran Airways, have each ordered 50 717s, only 15 have so far been ordered in Europe. European carriers, including SAS and Swissair, as well as the huge leasing company ILFC, have shown interest but have not placed orders.

According to Mr Heymann, the European tour is of critical importance. "If they don't get orders this year, especially from leasing companies, they really have problems."

In Europe, as in the US, more than 80 per cent of regional flights are less than 500 nautical miles, and the 717, a successor to the DC9, is targeting that market.

Boeing believes that, after 15 years in which Airbus has stolen the show with its family of short and medium-haul aircraft, it has found a niche that its European rival has missed.

Chris Longridge, vice-president of European sales, points to huge growth ahead in the market created by low-cost carriers, predominantly in Britain. "There is a great deal of innovation and intense flexibility must be the key to success."

Boeing may need to lure young, no-frills companies such as Debonair, Go, Ryanair and easyJet.

Over the next 20 years, only half the 3,000 short-range aircraft in service will still be flying, as many Boeing 737s, DC9s and BAe 146s will be retired. In addition, Boeing predicts a further 1,100 short-haul jets will be needed to satisfy the growing commuter and leisure traveller demand.

With 2,600 new aircraft needed, Boeing says that being first to the market is crucial. Airbus is still preparing plans for its A318, an aircraft that Boeing executives scathingly call a "double shrink" of its existing A320. Although the first A318 will not be delivered until 2002, Airbus claims it already has 130 firm orders, including 50 from TWA.

"The key is that our plane is flying. Theirs isn't," says Jerry Callaghan, director of the 717 programme.

Boeing is desperate to regain its position as the innovator, the company the aviation world has to watch. The excitement of the world-shrinking effect of the 747 and the market-dominating arrival of the 737 are now a mere memory.

With the 717 selling for less than £20 million, it will take substantial orders to help to turn round the 1997 losses of £100 million.

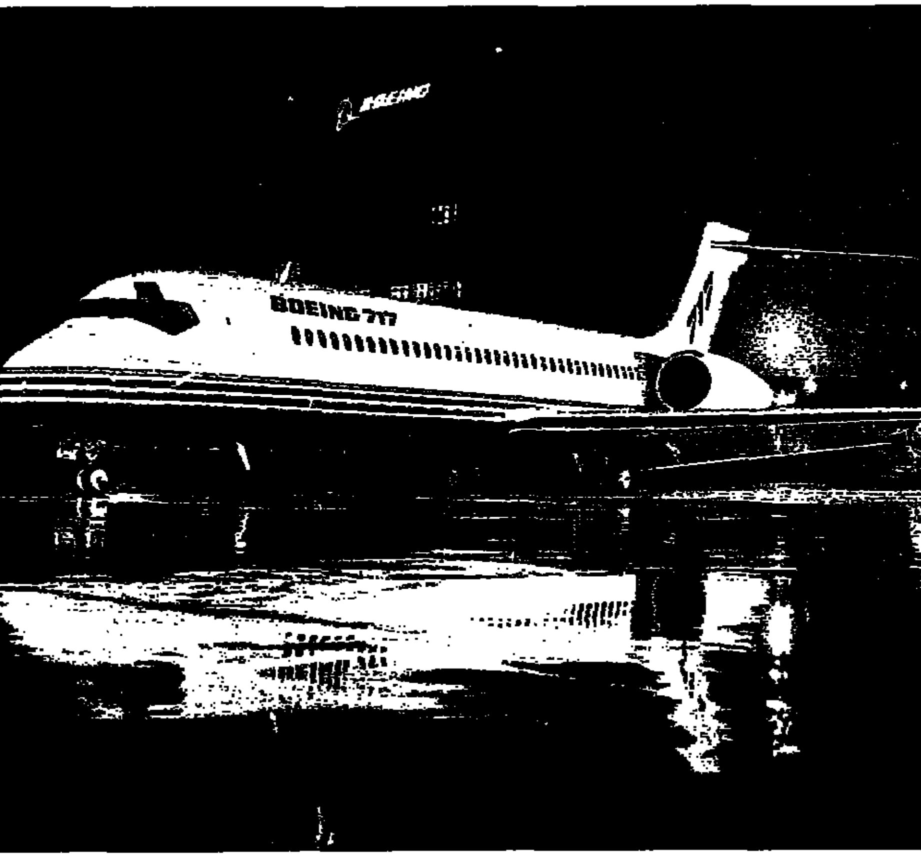
Boeing believes it is overcoming many of the production problems that caused such huge problems in 1996. The massive factories at Everett, near Seattle, and Long Beach are turning out 50 aircraft a month, compared with a low of 18 in mid-1996.

Colossal investment in automation has hit profits but has brought the US company more into line with the high-technology Airbus plant in Toulouse.

The company has also abandoned its old policy of meeting every specification laid down by airlines. The 717, for instance, has fewer than 80 optional extras for airlines to choose from. This contrasts with legendary tales of dozens of different designs that Boeing would offer to create to satisfy demand.

However, although Boeing is unwilling to bend over backwards to sell the 717, it dare not contemplate its baby failing to reach maturity. The company's future rests on the 717 meeting its sales targets.

In the words of Mr Callaghan: "We don't even contemplate failure."



Ready for take off: Boeing's 717 is being marketed as the natural successor to the DC9

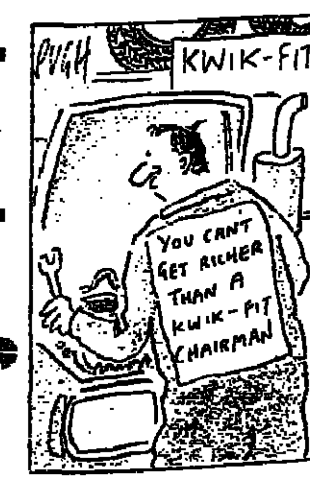
THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Knight out

NICK KNIGHT, deputy managing director of Nomura in the UK and one of the City's best-known strategists, has quit to set up his own hedge fund. He left Nomura after almost a decade once last year's bonus payment was confirmed, as indeed you would, and is now mulling over names.

Knight Fund Management is the favourite, with a play on words or logo on knights, chessmen and strategy, he tells me. "I've toyed with this idea for a number of years, and the time is now right."

I ask, in my ignorance, if big hedge funds are really flavour of the month. "You can do it at any level you want," he says. "I've got enough serious punters already."



READ this. "Next is planning a wide range of national and local events to raise awareness of the building week is National Construction Week, and Hanson plc, sponsor of the week, materials and construction industry."

No, I have no idea what it means either, but it is an announcement from Hanson, the building materials people. And it has nothing to do with Next, the fashion chain. It appears to concern a special week for builders. They're not coming anywhere near my house, I can tell you.

Bale out

TROUBLE at European Leisure, the subject of a bad-tempered and complicated three-way takeover bid, over the "golden parachutes" negotiated by its directors if one of the bids succeeds.

The offer document from Allied Leisure, the preferred bidder, shows that Ian Rock, chief executive, could receive £385,000 in all should Allied win the day. Other directors will not exactly be on the breadline either. The people at Waterfall, the other bidder, sniff that it all seems "extremely generous".

Rock's package buys him out of a two-year rolling contract on £175,000 a year. He can also buy his car for £7,000. "It's an elderly Lexus — he bought it second-hand and with high mileage already," European's advisers claim.

Tribute

THE people at Garban, the money broker, will mark the funeral of John Bullen, a colleague who died a fortnight ago, with a charitable donation. Bullen was just 37 when he died of heart problems.

He will be buried on Thursday, and all the profits from that day's trading on the Scandinavian forward forex desk where he worked will go to a charity of his family's choice.

THIS is completely bonkers, but it is true. Hewitt Associates, the management consultant, has hired the London Philharmonic Orchestra for tomorrow evening for "an interactive experience for exploring the metaphor of conductor as leader and orchestra as organisation".

As a result, 250 business people from firms including BP Amoco and Diageo will sit among the orchestra for a performance of the Enigma Variations *conducted by Roger Nierenberg of Stamford Symphony Orchestra. (The idea, unsurprisingly, is American).*

"You will be called up to take the podium, take the baton and conduct the orchestra," someone from Hewitt tells me. A sort of bizarre corporate karaoke, then. But what if you can't conduct for toffee? "He (Nierenberg) will stand behind the person and move their hands for them."

Pythonesque

OLD times recalled for George Walker, who celebrated winning the Moscow lottery licence by inviting some of his backers over there at the weekend. Walker and his wife, Jean, were very taken with a nubile Russian who took to the stage at the Metelitsa casino wrapped in a large python and not much else.

As it happens, the Walkers used to keep a python of their own, called Lola, in their penthouse apartment on Pall Mall in the 1980s heydays of Brent Walker. The snake belonged to their actress daughter Romla, now in *EastEnders*.

George added: "It would wrap itself around me with its head nestled in my neck, where it was warm. When visitors came round, it would put its head up and look at each of them in turn."

Just the trick, it seems, for frightening off their former son-in-law, the Marquess of Milford Haven.

MARTIN WALLER
city.diary@the-times.co.uk



Walker: snake trick

Something of Interest from
CharlesSchwab

All cash balances on Charles Schwab share trading accounts can earn you interest.
With effect from Tuesday 13th of April 1999, the following new interest rates will be applied to cash balances held on Share Trading accounts.

Gross interest p.a. based on cash balances	PEP Accounts & ISA Accounts*	MarketMaster	Frequent Traders Club	Traded Options
£20,000+	3.0%	4.25%	4.25%	4.25%
£5,000–£19,999	2.5%	3.0%	3.0%	3.0%
£500–£4,999	1.0%	1.0%	1.0%	1.0%
£50–£499	0.5%	0.5%	0.5%	0.5%

All interest rates are correct at the time of going to press and replace all previously quoted rates.
*Please note that ISA interest will be paid after deduction of the Inland Revenue Flat Rate Charge of 20%.

For more information on Charles Schwab Dealing Accounts please call our literature request line on 0870 601 8888 – ref: TT559

CharlesSchwab
Helping Investors Help Themselves®
www.schwab-worldwide.com/europe

Issued by Charles Schwab Europe, which is a member firm of the London Stock Exchange and LIFFE, an Inland Revenue Approved Plan Manager and regulated by The Securities and Futures Authority. Registered office: Cannon House, 24 The Priory Queensway, Birmingham B4 6BS.

Shares stage partial recovery

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

1999 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
615½	446	Allied Domecq	457½	+11½	6.7	11.0
341	279½	Bulmer (HP)	311		4.8	13.9
18½	10½	Burn Stewart	16½	-¼		
742	625	Diageo	684½	-4½	2.7	17.0
730	550	Glenmorangie A	570	...	2.5	15.5
266	222½	Highland Dist	251		3.8	11.8
29	25	Miryam W	26			

BANKS

BREWERIES, PUBS & REST

BUILDING MATERIALS

CHEMICALS

CONSTRUCTION

DISTRIBUTORS

DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIALS

ELECTRICITY

ELECTRONIC & ELECT

ENGINEERING

ENGINEERING VEHICLES

FOOD MANUFACTURERS

HEALTHCARE

HOUSEHOLD GDS & TEXT

INSURANCE

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

LEISURE & HOTELS

MEDIA

If only this page could be updated now.

Our pages just have been.

Interactive Investor is a free website devoted to making the most up-to-date financial information available to you. One visit could make all the difference to your portfolio.

www.iii.co.uk

interactive investor™

MINING

OIL & GAS

OTHER FINANCIAL

PHARMACEUTICALS

PRINTING & PAPER

PROPERTY

RETAILERS, FOOD

RETAILERS, GENERAL

SUPPORT SERVICES

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

TRANSPORT

WATER

ALTERNATIVE INV MARKET

BRITISH FUNDS

1999 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Gro red yld
SHORTS (under 5 years)						
101.68	100.53	Treas 10¼% 1999	100.5300	-0.0400	10.44	4.96
100.50	100.35	Treas 6% 1999	100.3500	-0.0100	5.98	4.91
104.32	103.15	Conv 10¼% 1999	103.1500	-0.0600	9.94	4.92
104.38	103.54	Conv 9% 2000	103.5400	-0.0500	8.69	4.83
105.84	104.77	Treas 8% 2000	104.9100	-0.0500	7.63	4.86
103.54	102.75	Treas 8½% 2000	102.7500	-0.0500	8.27	4.90
111.63	109.79	Treas 13% 2000	109.7900	-0.0600	11.84	4.83
110.37	109.00	Treas 10% 2001	109.0400	-0.0600	9.17	4.88
106.51	104.80	Treas 7% 2001	105.2600	-0.0600	6.65	4.79
MEDIUMS (5 to 15 years)						
108.13	106.04	Treas 7% 2002	106.5900	-0.0600	6.57	4.72
117.29	114.77	Treas 9¾% 2002	115.2000	-0.0800	8.46	4.81
110.21	107.04	Treas 6½% 2003	108.0200	-0.0700	6.02	4.57
114.74	111.66	Treas 8% 2003	112.4900	-0.0800	7.11	4.66
123.52	119.99	Treas 10% 2003	120.8100	-0.1000	8.28	4.71
113.59	111.99	Treas 11½% 2001-04	111.9900	-0.0400	10.27	4.93
98.35	95.42	Fund 3½% 1999-04	95.4200	-0.0300	3.67	4.34
135.43	133.35	Conv 9½% 2004	133.6300	-0.0800	7.88	4.61
113.38	108.68	Treas 6¾% 2004	110.8300	-0.0800	6.09	4.54
125.31	120.57	Treas 8½% 2005	122.4100	-0.0500	6.94	4.55
128.16	123.75	Conv 9½% 2005	125.4000†	-0.0500	7.58	4.60
135.56	131.27	Treas 12½% 2003-05	131.9800	-0.1000	9.47	4.31
121.82	116.53	Treas 7½% 2006	118.7000	-0.0700	6.32	4.57
122.40	117.43	Treas 7¾% 2006	119.5400	-0.0800	6.48	4.60
111.73	109.28	Treas 8% 2002-06	109.8100	-0.0600	7.29	4.87
126.29	123.39	Treas 11¾% 2003-07	123.7400	-0.0800	9.50	4.31
129.86	124.22	Treas 8½% 2007	126.5900	-0.0700	6.71	4.50
122.55	116.84	Treas 7¼% 2007	119.2000	-0.0700	6.08	4.54
138.52	131.92	Treas 9% 2008	134.7900†	-0.0900	6.68	4.46
114.67	108.77	Treas 5¾% 2009	111.5100	-0.0600	5.16	4.38
132.91	126.37	Treas 8% 2009	129.1800	-0.0500	6.19	4.47
118.76	113.05	Treas 6¼% 2010	118.1700	-0.0700	5.38	4.45
145.31	138.59	Conv 9% 2011	141.7800	-0.1100	6.35	4.52
147.74	140.35	Treas 9% 2012	144.1300	-0.1200	6.24	4.54
112.26	106.86	Treas 5½% 2008-12	109.4000	-0.0200	5.03	4.27
133.56	126.92	Treas 7¾% 2012-15	130.3100	-0.1000	5.95	4.56
LONGS (over 15 years)						
139.64	132.65	Treas 8% 2013	136.1700	-0.2800	5.88	4.55
144.12	136.53	Treas 8% 2015	140.3000	-0.3800	5.70	4.52
156.08	147.75	Treas 8¾% 2017	151.8900	-0.4700	5.76	4.55
153.21	144.01	Treas 8% 2021	148.4600	-0.6400	5.39	4.51
UNDATED						
79.83	72.06	War Ln 3½%	76.2300	-0.3900	4.59	
55.17	50.07	Treas 2½%	53.4900	-0.2000	4.67	
87.19	79.37	Consols 4%	83.7000	-0.4100	4.78	
INDEX-LINKED on projected inflation of:					5%	3%
206.02	202.47	Treas IL 2½% 2001	204.6300	+0.1000	2.30	2.74
207.83	204.11	Treas IL 2½% 2003	206.8700	+0.1500	1.96	2.22
134.77	132.33	Treas IL 4⅜% 2004	134.7700†	+0.1700	1.60	1.81
239.80	233.07	Treas IL 2% 2006	239.8000	+0.8100	1.36	1.50
221.43	213.61	Treas IL 2½% 2009	221.4300	+0.7400	1.50	1.61
235.82	226.50	Treas IL 2½% 2011	235.6200	+0.6700	1.59	1.68
199.07	190.36	Treas IL 2½% 2013	199.0700	+0.6900	1.61	1.69
221.10	210.15	Treas IL 2½% 2016	221.1000	+0.6900	1.61	1.69
221.68	208.77	Treas IL 2½% 2020	221.6800†	+0.8300	1.63	1.69
193.74	180.61	Treas IL 2½% 2024	193.7400	+0.7000	1.60	1.65
193.23	178.08	Treas IL 4⅛% 2030	193.2300	+0.8000	1.54	1.59

THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
ACM INVESTMENTS LTD				
0171 470 0100				
Spot Dbl Gilt	140.00	141.50	+ 0.10	
US Gov Bd (US$)	0.8497	0.8585	+ 0.02	...
Gilt Income	55.57	58.44†	− 0.08	5.40
Gilt Growth	182.80	183.60	+ 0.10	
Sterling Bond	56.60	57.57		5.50
AIB GOVETT UNIT TRUST LTD				
0171 378 7979 Dealing: 0171 407 7080				
Protected Funds				
UK Safeguard	149.62	158.38	− 0.41	...
-do- NAV to Jun 19	145.58	145.58		
UK Equity Safeguard	119.45	127.75	+ 0.90	2.80
-do- NAV to Mar 19	116.050	116.0506		
US Eq Safeguard	98.22	104.28	− 0.76	
Cash	957.30	962.09		4.50
UK Growth Funds				
UK Equity Gen	455.55	484.36	− 6.67	1.06
UK Small Cos	95.74	103.46	+ 8.40	0.31
FTSE 250 Index	112.78	120.82	+ 0.09	1.72
Govett UK Index	#25.448	#26.864†	− 0.70	4.09
Income Funds				
Cap Bd	88.85	91.84	+ 0.17	5.09
Monthly Inc	43.75	46.79†	− 0.13	7.66
International Funds				
American Gen	405.80	430.12	− 1.06	
American Smll	183.03	195.36	− 1.27	...
US US Index	#31.546	#33.235	− 0.33	4.50
European Gen	453.32	479.36	− 1.81	0.08
European Smll	219.26	234.40	− 1.04	
Japan Gen	119.99	125.64	− 1.52	
Asia Pacific	70.07	74.94	− 0.40	1.50
Pacific Smll	98.75	105.61	− 1.04	
Greater China	177.68	190.04	− 0.97	
Latin America	72.44	77.47	− 0.95	
Intl Growth	208.47	223.47	− 1.23	...
Balanced Exempt	187.01	193.79		
Global Strategy	51.76	55.35	− 0.38	
AXA SUN LIFE FUND MGRS LTD				
Admin & Enq 0117 989 9000				
AXA Equity & Law Unit Trust				
Balanced Acc	87.56	93.15	− 0.48	1.36
Balanced Inc	78.44	83.45	− 0.42	1.36
Brit Exempt	140.10	149.00	− 0.70	1.42

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
CANADA LIFE MGMT (UK) LTD				
01707 822 100				
Can Gen Dist	345.00	365.60		0.91
-do- Income Dist	188.40	199.50		2.47
-do- Accum	648.60	687.50		2.47
Gilt & Fxd Int	48.25	50.70		4.29
Growth Units	415.80	444.00		1.05
Bond	204.40	215.30†		5.10
Intl Growth	293.40	311.80		0.10
North American	463.30	491.50		
Far East	192.60	208.00		0.84
UK Smaller Cos	297.50	318.30		1.06
European	143.70	152.50		0.13
Japanese Growth	35.71	37.83†		
High Income	322.90	345.60†		2.54
CAPEL-CURE MYERS UT MGMT LTD				
0161 831 7433 Enq 0161 831 7439 Dlg 0161 831 7465				
American & Gen	393.60	416.50†	− 0.20	
European Inc	157.80	167.50	− 0.60	0.37
Smaller Cos (4-1)	124.80	132.80†	+ 3.20	1.84
Growth	804.00	855.40†	− 1.50	0.98
Income & Growth #	638.20	679.00†	− 1.80	3.64
-do- Accum #	1057.50	1125.00	− 3.20	3.64
Japan & Gen	63.14	66.73†	− 0.70	
Hallmark Gwth	1826.00	1903.00†	− 9.00	0.81
-do- Accum	2333.00	2431.00	− 11.00	0.81
Special Sits	185.30	197.10	− 0.20	1.01
High Yield	2084.00	2158.00	− 6.00	3.14
CAZENOVE UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
0171 606 0708				
Cazenove Portfolio	130.91	138.13		1.65
American Portfolio	211.87	224.24		0.37
European Portfolio	223.12	237.16†		0.27
High Income	59.83	63.03		5.94
Japanese Portfolio	57.08	60.33†	− 0.84	...
Pacific Portfolio	115.76	124.02	− 0.76	1.24
UK Equity	133.39	142.09†		2.02
UK Equity & Bd	75.82	80.37		3.80
UK Smlr Cos	54.52	58.31†	...	1.58
CBF CHURCH OF ENGLAND FUNDS				

[illegible]

Fast-track air travel to Scandinavia?
You've got it.

With more direct flights more often from the UK, there's no quicker way to get to our part of the world.
For more information about SAS, give us a ring on 0845 60 727 727, or visit www.sas.se - we're looking forward to seeing you on board soon!

It's pure Scandinavian

SAS
Scandinavian Airlines

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
LAURENCE KEEN UNIT TRUST MGMT				
0171 536 8000				
Bridge Income #	416.25	442.82	− 2.06	4.49
Esk Growth	153.45	163.24†		0.48
Inc & Growth #	108.98	115.94	− 1.43	2.80
Smaller Cos	127.50	135.73†	+ 0.07	1.40
Ever Spec Sit Inc	61.92	65.87	+ 0.59	2.21
Ever Spec Sit Acc	66.77	71.03	+ 0.64	2.21
Paradise Growth	60.60	64.47†	− 0.36	0.98
LAZARD UNIT TST MGRS LTD				

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
NW JOINT INVESTORS LTD				
01620 825067				
Balanced Fd #	1643.80	1669.70†		2.70
Income #	1334.80	1355.40†		3.80
MALDON UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0131 222 4242				
Maldon General	214.40	219.20†	..	3.80

[illegible]

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
UK Equity Gwth	543.87	578.58†	− 1.51	1.32
European	388.76	308.25	− 1.02	0.42
Nth American	143.05	152.18	− 0.55	
Far Eastern	65.33	69.50	− 1.06	0.40
Money	80.48	80.48	+ 0.02	4.81
Fixed Interest #	103.49	109.94	+ 0.13	6.67
Index Linked Gilt	100.58	106.67†	+ 0.62	1.05
VIRGIN DIRECT PFS LTD				
0845 958595				
Income Trust	120.21	120.21†	− 0.04	4.40
Pens Growth	158.07	158.07		
Pens Inc Protect	133.71	133.71	...	...
UK Index Tracking @	197.79	197.79†	− 0.85	1.30

For Wellingdale see ACM Investments

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
WOOLWICH UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0161 209 4000				
Intl Mgd	78.99	83.80	+ 0.01	1.45
UK Stockmarket	164.70	175.00		1.66
Corporate Bd Inc	53.01	53.17		4.16
-do- Accum	61.61	61.80		4.16

Source FT Information

* Yield expressed as CAR (Compound Annual Return). † Ex dividend. ‡ Middle price. ... No significant data. # Periodic charge deducted from capital. @ Exit charge

THEATRE
Tunes and test tubes in a camp new musical
PAGE 35

THE TIMES
ARTS

OPERA
Berlin feasts on a surfeit of Wagner
PAGE 36



Go has been nicknamed *Pulp Fiction Lite* by America's film critics — and that's no bad thing, says **Giles Whittell**

The coolest thing since Quentin

BIG SCREEN USA

Go must be the first film ever to include a white Brit in its line-up in the interests of ethnic diversity. He is not a token Brit, exactly — he gets co-star billing and causes a tremendous amount of mayhem — but he is definitely typecast, and the manner of his typecasting should give us, as a nation, pause for thought.

Our new cultural ambassador, played with great conviction by Desmond Askew, does not quite recall the icons of suave by which we were once known in Hollywood — the Nivens, the Connerys, even the Grants. He is more like Mr Bean with a mouth and a libido, or Clouseau with a robust Romford twang. He is friendly, naive, horrifyingly reckless and very, very stupid. Yes indeed. We will have another chance to be smug at the Yanks' expense when Hugh Grant socks it, so to speak, to Julia Roberts in *Notting Hill*. But in the mean time the Yanks are laughing at us, and in *Go* we have no choice but to go along with it.

This film is brazenly derivative, mainly of *Pulp Fiction*. Critics have variously called it *Pulp Fiction Jr*., *Pulp Fiction Lite* and the grunge version of *Speed*. Maybe so. But it still manages to feign originality and deliver all the fun and frolics of an all-night Ecstasy-fuelled rave in a suburban LA airport hangar. Much of this has to do with the script, a superbly taut confection by the 27-year-old John August, and his first to make it to the big screen. It is deeply hip — lines like "Don't get 818 on me here" presuppose a native Hollywoodite's contempt for the San Fernando Valley and its area code. It is also funny, to wit a talking cat, complete with subtitles, lecturing on the effects of E. And it offers the oddly wholesome satisfaction of seeing multiple plot strands thrown off like sparks from a Catherine wheel by the telling of the same chaotic story from three points of view, and then seeing them neatly resolved.

The strand involving Askew's mad Brit is actually the least original. All he does is go to Las Vegas with a bunch of male friends, throw up, have sex with two women at once, set their hotel room alight, steal a Ferrari and shoot a bouncer at a strip club. There is also a car chase. Back in LA, the girl who took Askew's shift at the stultifying supermarket where they toil tries to take on some of his drug-dealing work as well. Her first two customers turn out to be gay actors who play cops in a TV series but spend a sublimely bizarre Christmas Eve with a real narcotics detective and his wife, at the mercy of their wholly unexpected desires.

Despite its script, this project could have turned out like *200 Cigarettes*, an equally modish young ensemble piece that came and went last month, barely registering at the box office. The difference is Doug Liman, the director, who launched several careers, including his own, with *Swingers* two years ago. His restraint with his actors and his editing are paradoxically what make *Go* go: the result is at once frenzied and deadpan, allowing squarer souls to believe there may actually be kids out there who behave this badly.

Liman is his own cinematographer, which means it was probably his idea to send one of his checkout clerks on a delirious Macarena through the fruit and veg section of the supermarket where the film begins and ends. His skanky vision of low-budget LA partying is so real that he ends up not so much plagiarising Quentin Tarantino as threatening to usurp him as auteur of the moment at large in the underworld of Southern California's stoned yoof.

If Liman is the new Tarantino, he is helped by having the new Uma Thurman and Tom Cruise in his cast. The former is his lead, Sarah Polley. She has the legs of a giraffe and can make "Paper or plastic?" (as in "What sort of bag would you like your groceries in?") sound like a mortal threat. The latter is Scott Wolf, a dead ringer for Cruise in the era of *Top Gun*. His role as one of the gay actors marks a long-awaited graduation to features from sitcoms and reminds one of a top-class athlete running well within himself.

He and Polley are well supported by Taye Diggs — who gets lucky with lines like: "If one man in ten was having the sex I'm having there would be no war" — and by the spooky William Fichtner, who was blind in *Contact* but now sees everything as the drug cop.

Where Askew goes from here is certain. He doesn't look or sound like the next Ewan McGregor, but he leaves his mark on *Go*. Thanks mainly to him the film's ratings on the parent-orientated screenit.com website are: Alcohol/Drugs — heavy; Blood/Gore — heavy; Disrespectful/Bad Attitude — extreme.

Such warnings seem to be having an effect at the box office. Despite rave reviews, *Go* opened four places behind **Never Been Kissed**, the weekend's top opener — a patchy contrivance about a reporter who goes back to high school undercover. *Never Been Kissed* is notable mainly as proof that Drew Barrymore can carry a film as well as many actresses earning three times as much. We knew she could act, and last year she showed she could charm the pants off America as well: *The Wedding Singer* took in $80 million in the US alone and *Ever After* made $65 million. So enough of this froth, Ms Barrymore. Next time audition for Doug Liman.



The next big things of 1999? Taye Diggs (left) and the hugely promising British actor Desmond Askew in Doug Liman's brazenly derivative but modishly entertaining new movie *Go*

US WEEKEND BOX-OFFICE TAKINGS AND ANALYSIS

		Film	Takings
1	(1)	**The Matrix** (Warner Bros)	$22.2m/$37.4m
2	(-)	**Never Been Kissed** (Twentieth Century Fox)	$11.7m/—
3	(3)	**The Out-of-Towners** (Paramount)	$5.3m/$8.2m
4	(2)	**10 Things I Hate About You** (Touchstone)	$5.2m/$11.5m
5	(4)	**Analyze This** (Warner Bros)	$5.1m/$78.5m
6	(-)	**Go** (Columbia)	$4.7m/—
7	(5)	**Forces of Nature** (DreamWorks)	$3.7m/$36.5m
8	(-)	**Twin Dragons** (Miramax)	$2.8m/—
9	(8)	**Doug's 1st Movie** (Disney)	$2.3m/$9.3m
10	(-)	**Foolish** (Artisan)	$2.3m/—

● *First amount is estimated weekend takings, April 9-11. Second amount is total takings to April 5. Figure in brackets indicates last week's position*

● Keanu Reeves appears to have bounced back into the big time with *The Matrix*. The cyberspace thriller retains its No 1 spot for the second week, though Robert De Niro also goes from strength to strength with his Mafia comedy *Analyze This*, now approaching $100 million in takings.

Some are more equal

CONCERTS
An Equal Music
Wigmore Hall

Bits and pieces night at the Wigmore Hall. The scherzo and trio from Schubert's great string quintet, a Mozart violin sonata allegro, the opening of *The Art of Fugue* played twice, a Beethoven minuet and trio in two different garbs, the first chunk of a Bach violin partita; and just one complete work, one of Haydn's early string quartets, Op 20, No 6.

What was this, *Homage to Classic FM* or *Brian Kay's Friday Evening*? Certainly not. The concert's linch-pin and magnet was Vikram Seth and the publication of his novel, *An Equal Music*. Its narrating hero, Michael Holmes, plays second violin in a string quartet, the Maggiore; and he pursues his art in, among other places, the Wigmore itself — in Michael's words "the sacred shoe-box of chamber music".

So what better than a concert of music mentioned in the novel, with the author reading extracts moderately eloquently, and a pile of signed copies in the foyer?

This was a good idea and a bad idea. Good, because extracts and music at their best fertilised each other. We heard about Haydn writing his quartet in 1772 "with the sharpened feather of a bird"; we experienced the implied bright fleetness in the performance of the ad hoc group led by Maya Iwahuchi's gorgeously beautiful first violin. We heard of Michael in Vienna, performing Schubert with his long-lost love Julia and entering the composer's tormented mind. A few minutes later, the strings scurried, growled and sobbed through the scherzo of the C major quintet, passion bursting free from formal constraints.

But interlaced readings and music snippets did not make a compelling concert, and certainly precluded performances offering much organic flow. Instead, everything was managed with force and alacrity, from the opening of Bach's solo violin partita, BWV 1006, executed with panache by Philippe Honoré, to the brilliant platform re-adjustments. No player demonstrated more force, perhaps, than Joanna MacGregor. In the minuet from Beethoven's C minor piano trio (also heard reworked for string quintet), there was little of Seth's "equal music": MacGregor's piano stood in the spotlight, blazing nimbly through the movement's descending scales. She was better displayed alone at the end, steering a gravely beautiful path through the Contrapunctus I from Bach's *Art of Fugue*. An over-precious evening.

GEOFF BROWN



Vikram Seth, whose novel *An Equal Music* is just out

Music to watch paintings by

Compositions for Caulfield
Hayward Gallery

Artistic vision and good timing came together here, allowing the London Sinfonietta to combine its *State of the Nation* weekend of young British music with the closing days of the Hayward Gallery's Patrick Caulfield exhibition.

By giving the premieres of four RVW Trust commissions written specially for the exhibition to an audience surrounded by these paintings, the Sinfonietta overcame its usual handicap of having to play unregimented music in regimented spaces. Each of these musical "pictures at an exhibition" evokes strong visual images, and each is very different in its use of a fixed ensemble consisting of clarinet (Timothy Lines), trombone (David Purser), double bass (Enno Senft) and keyboard (John Constable). But two in particular seem to find striking musical equivalents for Caulfield's style: Karen Smith's *Within the Walls* and Edward Rushton's *Cheap Drinks* both catch the poster-like simplicity and vigour, as well as the artist's mixture of humour and melancholy.

Within the Walls operates on two different levels. It begins very effectively with a low, staccato melody broken up between the different instruments. Gradually the ideas are gathered up in fragmentary, jazzy strains, and the contrasting lines are integrated only at the close.

Cheap Drinks is inspired partly by Caulfield's *Happy Hour*, and is the composer's attempt to "populate" a stark-looking bar. The wailing clarinet of the opening is joined by a striding double bass and manic trombone, all at cross-purposes and with sampled sounds added in, before a common chant unites them.

Ian Vine's *three black moons* takes its name not from Caulfield but an Alexander Calder mobile. Indeed, this quiet score is almost like a mobile in its evocation of suspended sound and the way in which the same ideas are heard as if from different angles.

The visual connections *Tightropes of the Mind* makes attest to the fact that its composer, Marc Yeats, is a painter himself. A plain surface of sound is disturbed by the double bass "protagonist" and other voices including keyboard chimes, but calm cohesion is achieved by the end.

JOHN ALLISON

Parade of the imagination

Death in Venice
Festival Hall

Radio 3's *Endless Parade* of British music since 1945 reached Britten's *Death in Venice* at the weekend. Although infrequently staged it could, I suppose, be considered a classic of our half-century and, as Britten's last opera, either an apotheosis of the composer's imaginative genius, or an indication, *pace* the character of Gustav von Aschenbach in Thomas Mann's novel, of the artist's waning creative powers. It depends how you hear it.

Hearing was, indeed, the only option on Saturday. The endless parade of travellers, strawberry-sellers, gondoliers and godlike children which passes before the eyes of Aschenbach existed only in the mind's eye in this concert performance by the BBC Philharmonic and Yan Pascal Tortelier. The shimmering mirage of life which quivers round Aschenbach's monodrama — the gliding figures of Tadzio and his mother, the seaside pentathlon, the balletic children's games — was concentrated entirely within the score, thus refocusing its shortcomings as well as its unique imaginative invention.

As Anthony Rolfe Johnson lived, moved and had his being in every last inflected semitone and nuance of Aschenbach's writing, Tadzio and his attendant gods could almost have been an invention of his own mind — which, to some extent of course, they are. But those tiny musical cells, those exquisite tunings of pitch, timing and register; the sunstruck meeting of harp and piano, the menace of the bass woodwind, the scirocco breath of brushed drum and cymbal: they seemed at times little more than a seductive patina of sonorities.

And Aschenbach's soliloquies — Myfanwy Piper's frequently arch rendering into direct speech of Mann's infinitely subtle third-person narrative — were too often reduced to irritating verbalising without the visual complement, or distraction, of production. In short, with the comings and goings of all the minor characters, there was too much distraction to allow the imagination to work fully on the dramatic shortfall, and too little distraction to disguise the weaknesses of the work.

Nevertheless, this uneasy compromise could hardly have been better realised. Stefan Janski directed deftly the multifarious exits and entrances of the BBC Singers in all the cameo roles: their cunningly judged movement will doubtless add to the eloquence of the Radio 3 broadcast on May 7. Michael Chance, his countertenor coppery-gold as the Voice of Apollo, and Alan Opie as the Voice of Dionysius, held their debate from opposite boxes, high in the hall. And Opie as Traveller, Elderly Fop, Old Gondolier, Hotel Manager and Barber was a veritable one-man-band of characters.

HILARY FINCH

BUILDING A LIBRARY

A guide to the best classical CDs, in conjunction with BBC Radio 3

■ **POULENC'S CONCERTO FOR ORGAN, STRINGS AND TIMPANI**
Reviewed by Chris de Souza

Maurice Duruflé gave the first performance of Poulenc's Organ Concerto; his performance must be regarded as authoritative. But other performers have had to make their own minds up about the work's many subtleties. A good performance will exploit its dichotomy of styles. The opening gesture recalls the opening of Bach's G minor *Fantasia* and Fugue, but Poulenc subverts it at once with a quieter passage pinned down by an ominous figure on the timps. It sounds Baroque but it isn't. Play it like Baroque music and you get it wrong. George Malcolm attempts to put the Romantic genie back into the Baroque bottle, but is subverted by the Academy of St Martin, who bring every expressive nuance to bear on the sinuous string writing.

In the first minute Poulenc presents us with two antithetical styles — sturdy Baroque pillars of sound contrasted with soft Romantic harmonies. Every performance has to reckon with this split in the work's character. Poulenc marks the first allegro "*giocoso*". André Previn with Simon Preston and the LSO makes it sound like angst-ridden Mahler. Preston's performance is fine, but he's even better with the Boston Phil on Decca.

Dutoit pushes the Philharmonia so hard it ends up in a headlong rush. The BBC Philharmonic at Liverpool Cathedral with Ian Tracey gets lost in the cavernous acoustic, and with the Lille orchestra and Philippe Lefebvre in Notre Dame too much detail suffers in the more hectic passages.

The gentle three-time interlude is difficult to keep crisply in rhythm. Aware of the dangers of letting the rhythm go slack, Malcolm almost double dots it. The Boston Symphony under Munch is rather slow and turgid. Munch has a special relationship with Poulenc's music, but it doesn't shine through here. How much better the Boston Symphony sounds with **Simon Preston** under **Seiji Ozawa** (DG 445 67-2, £10.49). At the point where Poulenc marks the music "*très allant, très gai*", Preston somehow puts the bounce into it. Malcolm's approach at St John's College doesn't mesh with that of the Academy of St Martin. Marie-Claire Alain's performance with the ORTF and Jean Martinon doesn't for me get right inside the music. Duruflé's recording with the ORTF and Georges Prêtre has atmosphere, though the balance and the overall string sound leave something to be desired.

My choice is Simon Preston — always absolutely faithful to the letter as well as the spirit of the score.

To order the recommended recording, with free delivery, please send a cheque payable to The Times Music Shop to FREEPOST, SCO681, Forres, IV36 0BR or phone 0345 023 498; e-mail: music@the-times.co.uk. Next Saturday on Radio 3 (11am): Richard Strauss's Der Rosenkavalier

Time to root out the Nazi plunder

British galleries may unwittingly hold many works looted by Hitler's henchmen. **Simon Tait** reports on an initiative to see justice done



The picture of integrity: Sharon Page checks the collection in the Tate's stores to make sure that the provenance of all its works can be verified for the years 1933 to 1945

The Tate acquired T04863, as it is listed in the acquisitions list, for £57,000 from dealers in 1986, a year after it was sold at Sotheby's. It is a *large still life by André Derain* painted some time between 1938 and 1943, an important acquisition because of the size and sombre nature not usually characteristic of Derain. Its provenance was convincingly sound, at least by the lights of 1986.

But today a question mark hangs over T04863. "We think it's OK, but now we can't be sure," says the Tate's director, Sir Nicholas Serota. "Even in the 1980s and early 1990s one was less *fastidious about what we* acquired than one is now."

> 'In the 1980s we were less fastidious than we are now'

Nothing is known about its ownership until it appeared at auction. It was not sold through Derain's usual Paris dealer and it is not even clear precisely when it was painted. The doubt, though, is not whether T04863 is by Derain, unusual as it is. The question is a new one, not on the checklist in 1986: was this painting stolen by the Nazis and sold through the Paris art market they controlled during the Occupation?

"It's a question we have recently learnt has to be asked about anything we acquire whose history between 1933 and 1945 is not certain," Serota says.

Between those dates Hitler's henchmen took thousands of works of art from private and sometimes public ownership. Some were kept while many were sold on, often through the Paris dealers, some of them run by Jews who were given "Aryan status" because of their usefulness.

On behalf of the National Museum Directors' Conference, Serota has instigated a massive search through the whole national collection, and with almost military precision the 27 institutions concerned have their ac*tion plans in place and this* week are beginning the exhaustive trawl.

The Tate will have a comparatively simple task. Its team, led by the company secretary Sharon Page, will trace the histories of about 600 works, a dozen or so of which, like the Derain, are obscure.

But collections such as those at the British Museum and the V&A will have a much more complicated task, scanning the antecedents of objects from coins to costume to verify that none of the national archive is tainted. Most of the 27 institutions expect to complete the task in six months, though.

The search will be guided by a high-powered advisory committee, chaired by a High Court judge, Sir David Neuberger, and including the art dealer Sir Jack Baer, the critic Marina Vaizey, Professor David Cesarani, director of the Institute of Contemporary History, and the former Arts Minister, Mark Fisher.

"I think it's really important that the wider world should be given a feeling that this isn't something that's happening quietly behind closed doors, that there is some form of objective assessment, that museums are doing everything that they can under the public eye," says Serota.

Himself a scion of a leading British Jewish family, Serota was anxious that, although the chairman is Jewish, there were non-Jewish members of the committee — co-opted by Neuberger, not Serota — to make it clear that the issue is one that does not affect only Jews.

The search is not confined to works of art lost to Nazi looting by Jewish owners, however. "It's all works that were confiscated in the period from whomever they were taken, but we know this is a period in which confiscation took place on a fairly massive scale," Serota says. "It's of sufficiently recent date for there to be at least traceable relatives, though of course many people will have died in camps and elsewhere, and we think it's very clearly a period of history that is still of continuing concern."

The art world was alerted that there might be thousands of Nazi-confiscated works of art in national collections at the Nazi Gold conference hosted in London by the Foreign Office at the end of 1997. That was followed up by a conference on stolen art in Washington a year later, for which the national museum directors set up their working party under Serota's chairmanship.

The first inkling the British public might have had of the potential problem was in January when it was announced that *Monet in the 20th Century*, about to end its record-breaking run at the Royal Academy, would not include the artist's *Water Lilies 1904* when the exhibition came from Boston to London, because a claim on it was lodged while it was in the exhibition.

The picture had been part of a collection put together by Hitler's Foreign Minister, von Ribbentrop, but was alleged to have been confiscated from the prominent Jewish collector in Paris, Paul Rosenberg. It has been in the trust of the Musées Nationaux de France since 1950. In American law, loaned works of art are indemnified against seizure in a third country, but there is no such law in Britain.

"What cannot happen under our law is for works to be returned to owners if they have been acquired legally by us, but there could be claims for compensation," says Serota.

"I don't think in any sense this is a sledgehammer to crack a nut. Even if we find a very small number of works, it's very important that this should be seen to be something that does concern the wider community, even if at the end of the day the number of works is very small.

"We're not talking about spending millions of pounds to trace one lost picture that's worth £10,000. We're talking about a group of museum professionals using their expertise to do something which is going to be of value in any event in terms of scholarship, which is tracing the provenance of works in their collections. And we're talking about a group of people, the advisory group, who can bring a wider sensibility to bear on this."

Singalong in search of a cult

THEATRE

Escape from Pterodactyl Island
Pleasance, N7

Why do some deliberately naff, jokily self-parodying musicals end up as cult successes while others get quickly forgotten? The question surfaced last year when Birmingham Rep restaged *The Rocky Horror Show* at the same time that another piece of camp sci-fi, *Saucy Jack and the Space Vixens*, came noisily but briefly throbbing and bopping into the West End. And with the transfer of Richard O'Brien's musical to the Victoria Palace, and the simultaneous arrival in North London of *Escape from Pterodactyl Island*, it has to be asked again.

Since we critics are not being asked to review *Rocky Horror* in London I cannot give a definitive answer; but luck and chronology clearly have much to do with it. When the first Frank N. Furter pranced into the tiny Theatre Upstairs in his fishnet tights, it was 1973 and all that sexual burlesque and social rebelliousness seemed liberating. A jaunty little show became a phenomenon and was revived again and again. Many of the original fans will doubtless be at the Victoria Palace, scarlet corsets beneath their greying hair and sagging jowls, to see how Jason Donovan copes with spoof transvestism.



MARILYN KINGWILL

Cutie and the prof: Louisa McCarthy and Paul Thornley

Charm doubtless has something to do with it, and *Pterodactyl Island* certainly has more of that commodity than *Saucy Jack*. But I cannot imagine what nerve Peter Morris's libretto would touch, or what need it might fulfil, in cynical old 1999. Is it possible that someone, somewhere will be impressed by its message, which is that scientists should think hard before creating brave new creatures and worlds? Surely that has been amply enough pondered since *1818, which is when Mary Shelley wrote her Frankenstein: the modern Prometheus.*

Here, the Prometheus is a Victorian biologist called Devo who, for reasons never adequately shown, has escaped from Bedlam, found himself an island, and set about building raggety monsters with black highwayman's masks and weird magnetic powers. He calls them pterodactoids, and uses them to catch the people that a nice, convenient tidal wave has swept on to his coast. This crew includes his long-lost daughter, whom he promptly turns into the half-dinosaur, half-human queen of his little paradise, and her fiancé Robert, a professor of something-or-other entrusted with sticking up for the traditional English decencies.

There is a lot of enjoyable if repetitive fun at the expense of Paul Thornley's blimpish prof, who is given to uttering period banalities like "I venture we're on some uncharted island" and "judging by the fruits and berries we have collected, I surmise we can survive here for years". But neither that, nor the presence of Louisa McCarthy as a cute aboriginal in leopard-skin bra and hotpants, nor even Michael Jeffrey's always energetic, often catchy music, could reconcile me to a plot that seemed to consist largely of inexplicable escapes and unexplained recaptures. More sophisticated decor might help, but I doubt it. The *next cult singalong* is likely to start elsewhere.

BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE

Monster mashed

Frankenstein
Wimbledon Studio

One of the actors let slip a rather endearing look of exhausted relief at the end of Brute Farce's new version of Mary Shelley's great Gothic shocker. I sympathised — though not, I hasten to add, because it was all over. On the contrary, this production has plenty going for it, not least four able and excitingly physical performances from the young cast.

The adaptation, by Philip Graham and Rob Crouch, also has many merits. It is as faithful to the original as you could expect. It retains the novel's multiple narrative forms, and captures much of Shelley's compressed urgency and imaginative intensity. Most of the multitude of characters are also there, with Shelley and her circle tacked on at both ends for good measure.

But it all adds up to an awful lot for four people to get through in an hour and 20 minutes. Happily the cast, helped by some inventive and resourcefully choreographed direction from Graham and Crouch, rise enthusiastically to the challenge. Despite the ultra-low-budget set they conjure up grisly laboratories, mist-shrouded decks and any number of incidental characters with minimal interruption, a spare economy of characterisation and a break-neck, though always fluent, delivery. Hence the well-earned relief: the Wimbledon Studio Theatre is so small that you can smell the sweat flying off them after a few short scenes.

But this production's ambition is also its limitation. Of course, any stage version of Shelley's text is bound to lose much of the topical satire and moral allegory. Out go the anxieties about the encroachment of evolutionary theory on mankind's self-image. Likewise the central theme of the need for nurture and cooperation in society. The family who tend to the unseen monster, only to cast him off when confronted with his physical appearance, are shunted on and off so quickly that you miss the vital message — that this artificial but essentially natural man has far more humanity than the ostensibly civilised society which makes him what he becomes.

Instead, we are left with a simple story of a hubristic creator haunted to destruction by his creation. Even so, if you do not know the original, the many elisions will soon leave you losing the plot. Four actors, however versatile, just cannot flesh out all this material in such a short time. But the production zips along with so much focused energy that you hardly *have time to notice its faults.* The result is unavoidably muddled, but nevertheless thoroughly invigorating.

NIGEL CLIFF

EXCLUSIVE READER OFFER THE TIMES

HALF-PRICE SUMMER SHIRTS

PLUS 25% OFF ADDITIONAL ORDERS





This week *The Times* has teamed up with Boden to give you 50 per cent off one of Boden's popular Aertex* or linen cotton shirts. Our exclusive offer gives you a saving of £21 off the normal price of £42. You can also buy additional shirts at £31.50 each, a saving of £10.50. Simply collect four differently numbered tokens and attach them to the order form which will appear again on Wednesday. You can also order your shirts on the Internet by visiting www.boden.co.uk/times *Each token has an Internet code in the bottom right hand corner.* Input the codes when you order and follow the instructions.

THE TIMES HALF-PRICE SUMMER SHIRTS TOKEN 3 cf3

*Aertex is a registered trade mark of William Hollins & Co Ltd.

CODES AND COLOURS

Women's linen cotton **French navy** FNV **Candy pink** PNK **Pale lilac** PLI **Sky blue** SKY **White** WHT
Women's Aertex **Dark indigo** DIN **Pale blue** PBL **Plum** PLM **Pale pink** PPK **White** WHT
Men's linen cotton **Navy** NAV **Dark cornflower** DCN **Coral** COR **Natural** NAT **White** WHT
Men's Aertex **Dark indigo** DIN **Pale blue** PBL **Plum** PLM **Pale yellow** PYE **White** WHT

FOR A CATALOGUE OR INQUIRIES CALL: 0181-453 1535
8AM-8PM MONDAY-SATURDAY.

CHANGING TIMES

■ LISTINGS
Taiwan dance at the Wells

ARTS

■ **TOMORROW**
Visionary Glyndebourne

RECOMMENDED TODAY

Guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Marit Hargie

LONDON

CANDIDE: Great songs in Bernstein's musical drawn from Voltaire. John Caird and Trevor Nunn direct an excellent cast led by Daniel Evans, Alex Kelly and Simon Russell Beale.
Olivier (0171-452 3000). Opens tonight, 7pm. In *repertoire*.

CLOUD GATE DANCE THEATRE: In its first UK visit the Taiwanese contemporary dance troupe performs *Songs of the Wanderers*. Billed as "a spiritual journey through three tons of rice" the work blends Eastern and Western tradition in images evoking landscapes and journeys.
Sadler's Wells (0171-863 8000). Opens tonight, 8pm.

TALES OF A CITY: Life after a catastrophe, told as a mixture of dreams and memories by Macedonian writer Goran Stevanovski. Sandy Maberley directs for Theatre Melange.
Warehouse, Croydon (0181-680 4060). Opens tonight, 6.30pm.

Simon Russell Beale stars in *Candide* at the NT

ELSEWHERE

BRISTOL: New chamber group Zenith takes up its residency here. In its inaugural concert this lineup of outstanding players, headed by the leader of the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, Peter Manning, performs Schnittke's arrangement of Mahler's Piano Quartet, Beethoven's Piano Trio in B flat and Dvorak's Piano Quintet in A. Mikhail Kazakevich is the piano soloist.
St George's (0117 923 0359). Tonight, 7.30pm.

LEICESTER: Gabrielle Drake, Ian Papperell and Richard Wills play three of the many murderers in Paul Kerryson's production of *The White Devil*, Webster's gory tragedy.
Haymarket Theatre (0116-253 9797). Opens tonight, 7.30pm.

YORK: A welcome revival of Alan Bennett's 1970s play, *Getting On*, which exposes the disordered family life of a harassed MP, played here by Ian Rogerson. Damian Cruden directs.
Theatre Royal (01904 623568). Tonight, 7.30pm.

SWANSEA: Peter Stein's excellent staging for Welsh National Opera of Britten's *Peter Grimes* opens the company's one-week run here. A sterling cast headed by John Daszak further includes Janice Watson as Ellen Orford and Donald Maxwell as Balstrode. *La bohème* and *Hansel and Gretel* follow later in the week.
Grand Theatre (0792 475715). Opens tonight, 7pm.

NEW WEST END SHOWS

Jeremy Kingston's choice of theatre showing in London
■ House full, returns only ◪ Some seats available □ Seats at all prices

■ **MAMMA MIA!:** Musical based on the songs of Abba: Siobhan McCarthy and Lisa Stokke play mother and daughter on the eve of the girl's wedding. Phyllida Lloyd directs.
Prince Edward (0171-447 5400).

□ **THE GIN GAME.** Dorothy Tutin and Joss Ackland play old folk in a retirement home whose card-playing styles echo their sad lives. Frith Banbury directs a surprising Pulitzer Prizewinner.
Savoy (0171-836 8888).

□ **THE PRISONER OF SECOND AVENUE:** Richard Dreyfuss and Marsha Mason make their British stage debuts in Neil Simon's play about big city angst.
Theatre Royal, Haymarket (0171-930 8800).

■ **GOOD** C.P.Taylor's best play, tracing a liberal professor's gradual descent into working with the Nazis. Charles Dance heads a strong cast. Michael Grandage directs.
Donmar (0171-369 1732)

□ **THE COLONEL BIRD:** Bulgarian author Hristo Boytchev's award-winning play about an asylum taken over by the lunatics. Definitely a metaphor. Rupert Gould directs.
Gate (0171-229 0706).

□ **BLOOD KNOT:** Barry Wallman and Gordon Case star in Athol Fugard's updated version of his celebrated black and white brothers play. Wilfred Judd directs.
Riverside Studios (0181-237 1111).

□ **SACRED HEART:** Mick Mahoney's new one, where two second-generation Irish lads from NW3 meet again after years estranged.
Ambassadors (0171-565 5000).

□ **GROSS INDECENCY:** The Three Trials of Oscar Wilde: Michael Pennington plays Wilde, with William Hoyland and Clive Francis as counsel for and against, in Moises Kaufman's play.
Gielgud (0171-494 5065).

□ **HAMLET:** Paul Rhys plays the prince in Laurence Boswell's production. With Donald Sumter as Claudius.
Young Vic (0171-928 6363).

FILMS ON GENERAL RELEASE

James Christopher's choice of the latest movies

NEW RELEASES

A CIVIL ACTION (15): Meaty courtroom drama with John Travolta and Robert Duvall in sparkling form as two sharks in a case about toxic dumping. Steven Zaillian directs

BEDROOMS & HALLWAYS (15): Playful romantic comedy about male bonding with Simon Callow splendidly miscast as a heterosexual New Age Svengali. Rose Troche directs.

NO (15): Robert Lepage's supple, black comedy forms a psychedelic chain of coincidences between a Canadian actress and her bomb-making boyfriend. A teasing puzzle about politics and art.

THE FACULTY (15): Fishy sci-fi chiller with high comedy quota from Kevin Williamson. A faculty of schoolteachers get taken over by alien squids from outer space. Director Robert Rodriguez flogs the creeping paranoia with seat-clutching wit.

SLAM (15): Saul Williams puts in a sensational performance as a black rap poet caught up in the Washington prison system. A gritty documentary-style film by Marc Levin.

HIGH ART (18): Ally Sheedy and Radha Mitchell spread lesbian gloom and doom in an upmarket photographic magazine. Drugs, decadence, and Fassbinder fail to illuminate Lisa Cholodenko's constipated melodrama.

ORGAZMO (18): Tube station elevators are more exciting than this ghastly cartoon spoof on the Hollywood porn industry. Trey Parker writes, directs, and stars.

CURRENT

TEA WITH MUSSOLINI (PG): Flashes of dry humour illuminate Zeffirelli's tribute to the English spinsters who raised him in Florence before Mussolini jailed them. With Maggie Smith, Joan Plowright, and Judi Dench.

PLUNKETT & MACLEANE (15): Jake Scott's 18th-century swashbuckler is mildly amusing if you like being mugged. With Robert Carlyle and Jonny Lee Miller.

BLAST FROM THE PAST (12): An ingenious comedy about a man (Brendan Fraser) released after 35 years in a nuclear bunker. Bill Kelly directs.

THE NIGHT OF THE HUNTER (12): Charles Laughton's only stab at directing is a Tom Sawyer versus Sweeney Todd nightmare. Robert Mitchum's crooked preacher is unforgettable. A classic 1955 fear movie.

FESTIVALS: Rodney Milnes finds a maestro playing politics in Berlin; plus the best of Cheltenham

Barenboim's power parade

Artistic politics in Berlin are a minefield, and at times you feel that more importance is attached to them than to the art itself. Both halves of the long-divided city, soon to become Germany's capital once more, were showcases for their respective regimes, with their own lavishly subsidised cultural flagships. Ten years after reunification that duality still survives.

There are two equivalents to our Royal Opera: the State Opera in the east, the Deutsche Oper in the west. There are the Berlin Philharmonic (west) and the Staatskapelle (east). These are only the leading players — there are innumerable other bands and companies — and the sense of rivalry is reminiscent of the days when

OPERA

Goering and Goebbels squabbled over cultural hegemony in Berlin. You can argue over whether rationalisation is strictly necessary — the organisations are well supported at the box office — but if and when it comes it will not be achieved without the breaking of heads, and you feel that everything that happens in the city is as much jockeying for position as anything else.

Daniel Barenboim, in charge of the State Opera and the Staatskapelle (which, as in Vienna, also plays for the opera), is without doubt a key player. After being ousted from Mitterrand's Bastille Opéra before he even started, he was welcomed as a big name to a similar position of power in Berlin. Among his initiatives has been the Berlin Festtage, founded in 1996, a ten-day spring festival of high-octane music-making promoted by the State Opera itself with neither encouragement nor extra money from the city Senate.

Programmes are themed and come in harness with serious seminars — this year the subject was nationalism in music, with performances of *Tannhäuser* and *Lohengrin* making their own creepy contribution. Barenboim's closing concert examined some acceptable and less acceptable faces of German music: excerpts from *Fidelio* and Beethoven's Ninth Symphony, Schoenberg's *Survivor from Warsaw* and one of the nastier moments from *Lohengrin*. Hearing the latter chunk of fascism-in-music twice in 24 hours was almost more than I could take.

Other impressions from the second weekend? Barenboim's energy is simply phenomenal: the only other conductor in the festival, for a concert of Schoenberg's *Moses und Aron* and an absolutely stunning *Lied von der Erde*, was Pierre Boulez; the Mahler, wonderfully sung by Jon Villars and Roman Trekel, was the high point of the visit. This is no putdown of Barenboim: it is just that his opera performances have competition from the stage, and his concert with his other orchestra, the Chicago Symphony, devoted to three early Strauss tone poems, proved somewhat indigestible. The overwhelming impression was that the Staatskapelle is a superb orchestra, to be spoken of in the same breath as their colleagues elsewhere in Berlin, in Dresden and Vienna.

Among the Festtage projects is a Wagner cycle, to be completed in 2002. Hearing this orchestra playing the music in the Staatsoper Unter den Linden, definitely Berlin's showcase opera house, is indeed an inviting prospect. And having the same production team — the director Harry Kupfer and set designer Hans Schavernoch — for the whole cycle is also fine, in principle. But this year's new *Tannhäuser* and revival of *Lohengrin* had a curiously old-fashioned feel. Kupfer shocked us all to the core back in the 1970s, but today seems merely cold and efficient, and as for Schavernoch's taste for black-and-white colour schemes, PVC curtains and translucent plastic walls — well, been there, done that.

Lohengrin, which Kupfer is reputed to loathe (in w[illegible]ich case why direct it?), w[illegible] wri[illegible]-off, engaging in none of the ideas thrown up by the work. It just turned out to be "Elsa's dream". Oh, *please*. At least *Tannhäuser* had some colourful costumes by Buki Shiff, and Kupfer's depiction of stuffy, smug Thuringian society sardonically, even wittily, turned the proscenium arch into a mirror. The title role was sung by Robert Gambill. The American tenor proved an inspired choice: his voice has grown, but it retains its steadiness, musicality and lyricism, and he is a superb actor. Casting in both operas was at a luxury level: Waltraud Meier a knockout as Venus and Ortrud, Angela Denoke a radiant, secure Elisabeth, René Pape as the King in *Lohengrin*.



MONIKA RITTERSHAUS

Been there, done that: a scene from Berlin's new yet curiously old-fashioned *Tannhäuser* in the city's showcase Staatsoper Unter den Linden

The Festtage has no trouble attracting audiences. Up to a quarter are said to come from outside Germany, and that may be a modest estimate: you have to listen quite hard to hear German spoken in the intervals. More jockeying for position. And one reason for holding the festival at Easter is that the Berlin Philharmonic is in Salzburg, so the Staatskapelle gets into the Philharmonie. I had hitherto been protected from this preposterous building (all right, the acoustics are fabulous), a concert hall in the round in which the focus of attention of more than 2,000 spectators is concentrated on one figure at its hotspot centre, an unfortunate connotation in this particular city. Yes, it was built for Herbert von Karajan, and as in the case of that other impossibly megalomaniac Karajan building, the Grosses Festspielhaus in Salzburg, the only thing to do is pull it down and start again.

Does Europe need a new Karajan figure? If so, I suppose Barenboim could fit the bill. He has the energy, the determination, the political clout. He is on the shortlist for the Berlin Philharmonic and for Bayreuth. He could do it. I just wish he wouldn't. It is time to move on.

No introductions necessary

JAZZ

Dizzy Gillespie had an old gag that went: "Ladies and gentlemen, before we go any further, I'd just like to introduce the band," whereupon he introduced the band members to one another. Today's international jazz community, more impressively represented this year than ever at the Cheltenham Jazz Festival, has a different strategy: a monumental opening number with solos all round becomes a kind of handshake with the audience.

When the company is pleasant and the guests have something to say, this convivial habit works rather well. Chick Corea's **Origin**, for example, is built round an acoustic sextet originally led by the bassist Avishai Cohen. This was a tight-knit band playing challenging material even before Corea got involved. Add his compositional skill, keyboard brilliance and deft presentation, and their 35-minute opener, *Double Image*, didn't seem a moment too long. The band thrives on a polyrhythmic complexity provided by Corea and drummer Jeff Ballard, with Cohen hitting and strumming his bass from time to time to add to the rhythmic density.

Whereas the musical conversation of Corea's band sparkled, the opening dialogue between Polish pianist **Leszek Mozdzer** and saxophonist **Adam Pieronczyk**, making their UK debut, was harder work. It was 25 minutes into the opening piece, by which time several of the audience had shuffled away, that a magical transformation took place. Instead of their rather earnest free-form introduction, they were suddenly playing gently and interestingly in unison. Their new compositions which followed got better and better.

I suspect **Chico Freeman**'s opening number would have been longer than anyone else's if his set had not been delayed by some missing instruments. "Perhaps they were hidden deliberately," muttered someone behind me, as the saxophonist's Latin band **Guataca** launched into its brash set. In Freeman's previous Cheltenham appearances, he has been a paragon of tasteful, witty, and complex modern tenor playing. But now he strutted on stage in a daffodil yellow suit, honking, trilling, and swaying in front of an arsenal of percussion, and the muscular piano of Hilton Ruiz.

The band that followed on the main stage showed just how effectively it is possible to entertain, yet retain the highest musical standards. **Joe Lovano** broke his trio's opening handshake into three sections, each of which displayed a different aspect of the group. They played with and for one another, Idris Muhammed's powerful drums dropping to the quietest shiver behind Cameron Brown's articulate and full-toned bass.

The most individual opening statement of the festival came from another small group, Dave Douglas's **Tiny Bell Trio**. Drummer Jim Black combines allusions to the entire drum tradition, inside and outside jazz, into a fluid and exciting style of his own. He is the perfect counterfoil for Douglas. With the guitarist Brad Shepik they tore in and out of Schumann, jazz ballads, Balkan folk tunes and originals with verve and humour. The audience rewarded them with riotous applause and spontaneous laughter — the kind of reaction that enlivens not just the handshake, but the entire conversation that follows.

ALYN SHIPTON

OPERA & BALLET

COLISEUM 0171 632 8300 (24hr)
ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA
Thu 7.30 MEPHISTOPHELES

DANCE

SADLERS WELLS
0171 863 8000
CLOUD GATE DANCE THEATRE OF TAIWAN
13-17 April at 8.00
Tickets from £7.50

THEATRES

ADELPHI
cc 24hrs (£1 bkg fee) 0171 344 0055
Grps 413 3321/0800 514 903
'KILL FOR A TICKET' M.o.S.
WINNER OUTSTANDING MUSICAL
Olivier Awards '98
CHICAGO
The Musical
Maria Friedman Nicola Hughes
'STILL THE HOTTEST SHOW IN TOWN' Ind
Mon-Sat 8, Wed & Sat Mats 3

ALDWYCH 0171 416 6000 cc 0171 857 4001/420 0000(bkg fee) Grps 0171 416 6075/413 3321
'Lloyd Webber's best show since Phantom' D.Tel
WHISTLE DOWN THE WIND
'BEST NEW MUSICAL IN TOWN' D.Mil
'Completely, completely brilliant' Capital Radio
Now booking to March 2000
Mon-Sat 7.45 Mats Thur & Sat 3.00
Original cast album now on sale

ALMEIDA AT THE ALBERY
0171 369 1740/344 4444
David Hare's
PLENTY
Directed by Jonathan Kent
PREVIEWS FROM THURS
Mon-Sat 7.30pm, Thur & Sat Mat 3pm

APOLLO SHAFTESBURY AVE
0171 494 5509/344 4444
MARK LITTLE in
DEFENDING THE CAVEMAN
by Rob Becker
'Uproariously funny' D Tel
'ABSOLUTELY BRILLIANT' John Gray (Men are from Mars..)
Mon-Thurs 8, Fri 8.45, Sat 6 & 8.45
Now booking to 2nd October

APOLLO VICTORIA cc 0171 416 6055 cc24hrs 0171 344 4444/0171 420 0000 Grps 416 6075/413 3321
Andrew Lloyd Webber's
STARLIGHT EXPRESS
SEE IT AND YOU STILL WON'T BELIEVE IT!
Eves 7.45, Tue & Sat 3pm
Tickets from £12.50
NOW BOOKING TO MARCH 2000

CAMBRIDGE 494 5080/416 6060/344 4444/420 0000 (+bkg fee)Grps 494 5454 416 6075/413 3321/436 5588
DARREN DAY as Danny
GREASE
NOW IN IT'S 6TH SENSATIONAL YEAR!
'A Monster Hit' D. Mirror
Mon-Sat 7.30pm. Wed & Sat Mat 3pm
BOOKING TO THE MILLENNIUM

COMEDY 0171 369 1731
0171 344 4444
SUDDENLY LAST SUMMER
by Tennessee Williams
With Sheila Gish and Rachel Weisz
Directed by Sean Mathias
Previewing. Opens Tomor 7pm
Mon-Sat 8pm; Thu & Sat Mats 4pm

CRITERION 369 1737/344 4444
HILARIOUS 4th GREAT YEAR
THE REDUCED SHAKESPEARE COMPANY
THE COMPLETE WORKS OF WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE (abridged)
Mats Thur at 3pm, Sat at 5pm
Sun at 4pm, Eves at 8pm
'Laugh, I nearly died' Times
'GO NOW' S.Times
Tuesdays only at 8pm
THE COMPLETE HISTORY OF AMERICA (abridged)
Booking 1st September '99

DOMINION 0171 656 1888/ 344 4444, Groups (12+) 0171 416 6098/413 3321
WINNER! BEST NEW MUSICAL
Olivier Awards 1998
Disney's
BEAUTY AND THE BEAST
'A DAZZLING, MAGICAL EVENING FOR EVERYONE HIGHLY RECOMMENDED' Virgin Radio
Mon-Sat 7.30, Mats Wed & Sat 2.30
NOW BOOKING TO FEB 2000

DONMAR WAREHOUSE 369 1732
GOOD
by CP Taylor
Eves 7.30, Mats Thu & Sat 3

DRURY LANE THEATRE ROYAL
SS cc (bkg fee) 24hr 7 days 0171 494 5000/344 4444/420 0000 Grps 494 5454/413 3311/0870 841 0841
MISS SAIGON
'THE CLASSIC LOVE STORY OF OUR TIME'
NOW IN ITS 10TH BREATHTAKING YEAR!
Eves 7.45 Mats Wed & Sat 3pm
Good seats avail for Wed Mat & some perfs - apply B.O.

DUCHESS 0171 494 5075 cc 0171 420 0000 (bkg fee) Grps 0171 494 5454
DAVID BURKE SARA KESTELMAN MATTHEW MARSH
in MICHAEL FRAYN'S
MULTI AWARD WINNING PLAY
COPENHAGEN
Dir by MICHAEL BLAKEMORE
'Masterly performances in a masterwork' Times
Mon-Sat 7.30 Mats Thu & Sat 2.30

FORTUNE BO & CC 0171 836 2238/344 4444/494 5388
NOW IN ITS 10th HIT YEAR
JOHN NETTLETON ROBERT HANDS
Susan Hill's
THE WOMAN IN BLACK
Adapted by Stephen Mallatratt
'The most thrilling and chilling play for years' D.Mail
Mon-Sat 8.00, Mats Tue 3.00 & Sat 4.00
Running time 2 hrs

GARRICK 0171 494 5085/344 4444 (bkg fee) Gps 0171 494 5454/413 3321
'AN EPIC FOR OUR EPOCH' E.Std
The Royal National Theatre Production
WILLIAM GAUNT PHILIP WHITCHURCH MARJORIE YATES
JB Priestly's
AN INSPECTOR CALLS
'A THRILLING PIECE OF THEATRE WHICH MUST BE SEEN BY ALL' D.Mail
'AWE-INSPIRING!' The Times
Mon-Fri 7.45, Sat 5 & 8.15
Mats Wed 2.30

GIELGUD 0171 494 5065 (+bkg fee)
'STRONGLY RECOMMENDED' Ind
MICHAEL PENNINGTON CLIVE FRANCIS
GROSS INDECENCY
A New Play by Moisés Kaufman
'RIVETTING THEATRE' D.Tel
Mon-Sat 7.45 mats Wed, Sat 2.30
MUST CLOSE APRIL 17

HAYMARKET, THEATRE ROYAL
0171 930 8800 cc 344 4444 (bkg fee)
RICHARD DREYFUSS MARSHA MASON
NEIL SIMON'S
THE PRISONER OF SECOND AVENUE
'The audience has a ball...you are bent double with laughter' Variety
Mon-Sat 7.45, Wed & Sat Mats 3.00

HER MAJESTY'S 24hr 494 5400 (bkg fee)cc344 4444/420 0000(fee) Grps 494 5454/413 3311/436 5588
ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER'S
AWARD WINNING MUSICAL
THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA
Directed by HAROLD PRINCE
NOW BKG TO JUNE 2000
Eves 7.45 Mats Wed & Sat 3.00
Apply to Box Office daily for returns and Wed Mat availability

LONDON APOLLO Hammersmith
BO(no bkg fee) 0870 606 3400
cc(+bkg fee) 420 0000/344 4444
Grps 0171 416 6075
Leslie Bricusse's
DOCTOR DOLITTLE
Starring
PHILLIP SCHOFIELD
'THIS IS A SURE-FIRE HIT' ITV
'PURE PLEASURE' Daily Mail
Book, music & lyrics by Leslie Bricusse
Directed by Steven Pimlott
Tue-Sat 7.30, Mats Wed, Sat 2.30
SEASON ENDS 28 AUG '99

LONDON PALLADIUM 0171 494 5030/344 4444 (bkg fee) Grps 0171 494 5454/413 3321
SATURDAY NIGHT FEVER
'A SENSATIONAL NIGHT OUT' D.Mirror
'HOT STUFF ANY NIGHT OF THE WEEK' Times
'FEVER IS STILL INFECTIOUS' D.Tel
Mon-Sat 7.30 Wed & Sat Mats 2.30
NOW BOOKING TO OCT 1999
SOME SEATS AVAIL FOR WEDS MAT

LYCEUM BO+CC(24hrs)0870 606 3440 0171416 6099/344 4444/420 0000
THE SEASON'S SENSATION
The Royal National Theatre Production
Rodgers & Hammerstein's
OKLAHOMA!
Winner of 4 Laurence Olivier Awards
Inc Outstanding Musical Production
Best Musical - Eve Standard Award
'OH WHAT A BEAUTIFUL EVENING' D.Mail, Guard, Times, Ind, etc
Eves 7.30 Mats Wed & Sat 2.30
100 standby seats @ £5 held 'til the day Mon-Thur at BO
10 WEEKS ONLY TO 26 JUNE

LYCEUM 0870 243 9000 (bkg fee)
Groups 0171 416 6093
Disney presents
THE LION KING
Performances begin 24 Sept

LYRIC 0171 494 5045/344 4444
ANIMAL CRACKERS
Marx Brothers' Musical Comedy
'DELIRIOUSLY FUNNY' D.Mail
Mon-Sat 7.45, Mats Wed & Sat 3.00

NATIONAL THEATRE BO 0171 452 3000 Grps 0171 452 3010
24hr cc bkg fee 0171 420 0000
OLIVIER Ton't 7.00 (PRESS NIGHT). Tomor 7.15 CANDIDE
LYTTELTON Tomor 7.30 (PREVIEW) GEOMETRY OF MIRACLES conceived by Robert Lepage and Ex Machina.

NEW LONDON Drury Lane WC2
BO 0171 405 0072 cc 24hrs 344 4444 Grps 405 1567/413 3311
THE ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER/ T.S. ELIOT INTERNATIONAL AWARD WINNING MUSICAL
CATS
Eves 7.45 Mats Tue & Sat 3.00
Bars open at 6.45
Good seats avail for Tues Mat

OLD VIC 0171 494 5372 (£1 fee)
SEASON EXTENDED UNTIL 25 SEPT
DAVID SUCHET
Until 17th April
in
AMADEUS
BY PETER SCHAFFER
NICHOLAS LE PREVOST as Salieri From 19th April
'Highly Theatrical & superbly directed by PETER HALL' Gdn
'CRACKING NIGHT OUT' D.Tel
'EVERYONE MUST GO' NotW
Eves Mon-Sat 7.30
Mats Wed & Sat 2.30

PALACE THEATRE 0171 434 0909 cc 24hrs (bkg fee) 0171 344 4444 (bkg fee) grps 0171 413 3311
THE WORLD'S MOST POPULAR MUSICAL
LES MISERABLES
NOW IN ITS 14TH RECORD BREAKING YEAR
Eves 7.30 Mats Thu & Sat 2.30
GOOD SEATS AVAILABLE FOR THURSDAY MATINEE
& Limited num of seats avail daily from B.O. for eve performances
Latecomers not admitted until the interval

PEACOCK THEATRE 0171 863 8222
Sadler's Wells in the West End
HOT MOUTH
NY's Cult Vocal Sensation
'Fierce...Funky...Fabulous' Village Voice
20 April-1 May Tickets from £7.50

PHOENIX BO/CC 0171 369 1733 /344 4444/420 0000 (fee)
BEST MUSICAL
Olivier/Drama Awards
Plays & Players/Ivor Novello Awards
WILLY RUSSELL'S
BLOOD BROTHERS
'...Brings the audience to its feet and roaring its approval' D Mail
Eves 7.45 Mats Thurs 3pm Sat 4pm

PICCADILLY 0171 369 1734/344 4444
PRUNELLA SCALES TIMOTHY WEST STEVEN PACEY NIGEL TERRY
THE BIRTHDAY PARTY
By HAROLD PINTER
FROM 20th APRIL
Mon-Sat 8pm, Thur 3pm, Sat 5pm

PRINCE EDWARD 0171 447 5400
0870 8401111/0171 344 4444 (no fee)
'MAMMA MIA IS HEAVEN' D.Mirror
'THE BIGGEST HIT IN LONDON!
A GLORIOUS EVENING' D.Mail
Benny Andersson & Bjorn Ulvaeus'
MAMMA MIA!
The ABBA musical
'THE FEEL-GOOD FACTOR OF A GREEK ISLAND HOLIDAY! SHIRLEY VALENTINE MEETS PENNIES FROM HEAVEN' Gdn
Mon-Sat 7.30 Mats Thu & Sat 3.00

QUEENS 0171 494 5040 (£1 bkg fee)
Groups 0171 494 5454/0870 240 1205
RUFUS SEWELL SALLY DEXTER
'Penetrating performances' S.Tms
MACBETH
by William Shakespeare
Eves 7.30 Mats Sat 2.30

ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY
STRATFORD 01789 295623/ 0541 541051
RST: OTHELLO Ton't 7.30 Swan: TALES FROM OVID Ton't 7.30
TOP: OROONOKO Ton't 7.30
LONDON 0171 638 8891
Barbican: THE WINTER'S TALE Ton't 7.15 Pit: GOODNIGHT CHILDREN EVERYWHERE Ton't 7.15

ROYAL COURT Duke of York's
0171 565 5000 cc/24hrs 420 0005
Best New Play Olivier Awards 1999
THE WEIR
by Conor Mc Pherson,
Mon-Sat 7.30 Wed & Sat Mat 3.30
Upstairs (Ambassadors, West St)
SACRED HEART by Mick Mahoney
Tues-Sat 7.00, Sat Mat 4.00

SAVOY THEATRE 0171 836 8888
JOSS ACKLAND DOROTHY TUTIN
'TWO ACE PERFORMERS' Tms
THE GIN GAME
'OUTSTANDING' S.Tel
Mon-Sat 7.45 Mats Thur & Sat 3.00

SHAFTESBURY 07000 21 12 21
0870 840 1111/0171 344 4444 (bkg fee)
'RUSH TO ...
RENT
...IT'S THE HOTTEST PROPERTY IN TOWN' NOTW
Mon-Sat 7.30, Mats Wed, Sat 3.00
NOW BOOKING TO 2000

ST MARTINS 0171 836 1443
Eves 8, Tue 2.45, Sat 5 & 8
AGATHA CHRISTIE'S
THE MOUSETRAP
47th YEAR

STRAND THEATRE Box Off & cc (no fee) 0171 930 8800
cc (bkg fee) 0171 344 4444/420 0000
Groups 0171 413 3321/ 0171 436 5588
BUDDY
The Buddy Holly Story
'BRILLIANT' Sun
BUDDY
'WONDERFUL STUFF' Sun Tel
Tues-Thurs 8.0 Fri 5.30 & 8.30
Sat 5 & 8.30
Sundays 4.00pm. Kids 1/2 price
Subject to availability
ALL SEATS 1/2 PRICE FRI 5.30 PERF
10th TRIUMPHANT YEAR
Over 3,500 Performances
Now booking 'til the year 2000

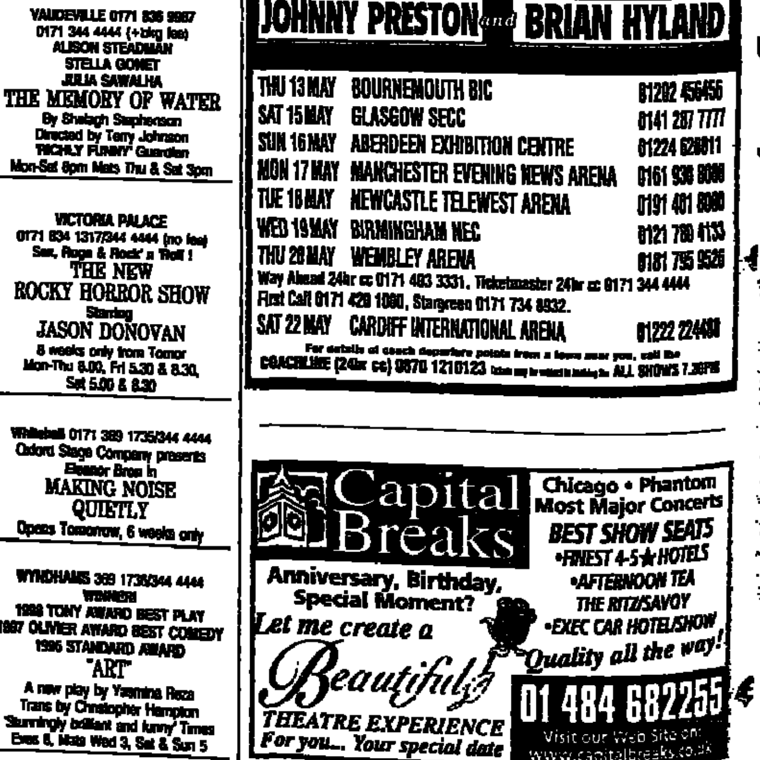
VAUDEVILLE 0171 836 9987
0171 344 4444 (+bkg fee)
ALISON STEADMAN STELLA GONET JULIA SAWALHA
THE MEMORY OF WATER
By Shelagh Stephenson
Directed by Terry Johnson
'RICHLY FUNNY' Guardian
Mon-Sat 8pm Mats Thu & Sat 3pm

VICTORIA PALACE
0171 834 1317/344 4444 (no fee)
Sex, Drugs & Rock' n 'Roll !
THE NEW ROCKY HORROR SHOW
Starring
JASON DONOVAN
8 weeks only from Tomor
Mon-Thu 8.00, Fri 5.30 & 8.30, Sat 5.00 & 8.30

Whitehall 0171 369 1735/344 4444
Oxford Stage Company presents
Eleanor Bron in
MAKING NOISE QUIETLY
Opens Tomorrow, 6 weeks only

WYNDHAMS 369 1736/344 4444
WINNER!
1998 TONY AWARD BEST PLAY
1997 OLIVIER AWARD BEST COMEDY
1996 STANDARD AWARD
"ART"
A new play by Yasmina Reza
Trans by Christopher Hampton
'Stunningly brilliant and funny' Times
Eves 8, Mats Wed 3, Sat & Sun 5

ENTERTAINMENTS
TO ADVERTISE IN THIS SECTION PLEASE
Telephone: 0171 680 6222
Fax: 0171 782 7930
Email: tnl.ents@newsint.co.uk





ENERGY, PROJECTS & CONSTRUCTION
1-5 years' PQE

We won't let you go astray.

This is the fun part. Spotting the advertisement. Reading it through. Thinking about changing firms. Imagining resigning. Your leaving do. The presents. The card.

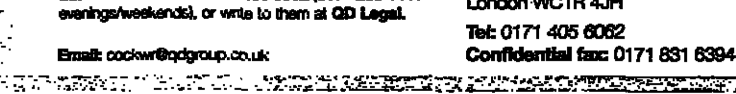
But it doesn't have to be the best bit.

At Cameron McKenna, we won't look to label you on Day 1 as a specialist in a narrow field nor restrict your ability to develop your own practice. We tailor a Personal Development Plan for each lawyer who joins us. We look to ensure that all assistants have the same opportunity to extend their knowledge in new areas and develop the core skills that will ensure that they succeed.

The Energy, Projects and Construction team will offer you diversity – from advising on a high speed rail link in the Netherlands; a telecoms project in Russia; an electricity restructuring in California; an airport redevelopment in Tanzania; a water purification project in the Philippines; to the Channel Tunnel Rail project.

Many of our overseas offices have an EPC team and we have opportunities for excellent candidates in a number of jurisdictions.

We will offer you a career – not a label.



For further information, in complete confidence, please contact **Stephen Rodney, William Cock** or **Laura Paonessa** on **0171 405 6062** (0171 285 1441 evenings/weekends), or write to them at **QD Legal**.

Email: cockwr@qdgroup.co.uk

QD Legal
37-41 Bedford Row
London WC1R 4JH
Tel: 0171 405 6062
Confidential fax: 0171 831 6394



"An innovative provider of high quality services."
A major client.

ACCORD plc

General Counsel

Hertfordshire — *To £Excellent + bens*

The Accord group of companies has been created on the refocussing of the John Doyle Group plc. The company is involved in developing FM, maintenance services and PFI solutions for a variety of organisations. With an initial turnover approaching £100m and the backing of City investors, the company is planning a public listing in the next 3-5 years.

The opportunity has arisen to join Accord as General Counsel. As a member of the senior management team, you will be responsible for all legal matters arising and will be required to provide strategic legal advice at board level.

With between 3 and 7 years' post-qualification experience, gained either in private practice or in-house, you will be committed to providing high-quality commercial advice. You will have a strong commercial law background and extensive negotiation experience. Some exposure to employment law and insurance matters would be advantageous. You will have the capacity to succeed as part of a team in a dynamic, commercial environment.

This is an outstanding opportunity for a high calibre individual to take an important and strategic role in this dynamic new company. As you would expect from a role that requires significant senior input - with individuals from both within and outside the organisation - this position offers an excellent salary and benefits package.

For further information, in complete confidence, please contact **Samantha Malin** on 0171 405 6062 (0171 221 8528 eve/wkends) or write to her at QD In-House Legal.

E-mail malins@qdgroup.co.uk

QD In-House Legal
37-41 Bedford Row
London WC1R 4JH

Tel: 0171 405 6062
Confidential fax: 0171 831 6394
Web: www.qdgroup.co.uk

This assignment is being exclusively handled by QD In-House Legal and all direct or third party applications will be forwarded to them for consideration.





Leasetec



A KeyCorp Company

EUROPEAN REGIONAL COUNSEL

BERKSHIRE — **To £Excellent + Bens**

Since its inception in 1979, Leasetec has distinguished itself as an industry leader in the provision of operating and capital lease financing for the products of manufacturers of IT equipment and software worldwide. With its business spanning Europe, North America and Asia, the company originates more than US$1 billion in new leases each year and currently manages a portfolio of over $2 billion in lease assets.

As a result of continued growth in the region, Leasetec is seeking to appoint a European Regional Counsel. Based at its European Headquarters in Ascot, you will provide high-level advice to the business and establish the European legal function for the company.

With between 4 and 7 years' post-qualification experience, gained either in a City practice or in-house, you will have a strong commercial law and transactional background together with some involvement in corporate and finance issues. A knowledge of equipment leasing, whilst highly desirable, is not a prerequisite.

You will be a motivated, commercially-minded individual who is keen to contribute in a strategic manner to the business. Crucially you will be able to work autonomously, liaising effectively with local lawyers in each jurisdiction with the ability to deal comfortably with management at all levels internationally. Some travel will be required and a second European language would be an advantage.

This is a challenging and exciting opportunity for a high calibre individual to take on a pivotal role in this international company. In return, Leasetec offers an excellent package including competitive base salary plus a comprehensive benefits package.

For further information, in complete confidence, please contact **June Mearle** on 0171 405 6062 (0181 442 0641 evenings/weekends) or write to her at QD In-House Legal.

email: meareja@qdgroup.co.uk

QD In-House Legal
37-41 Bedford Row
London WC1R 4JH

Tel: 0171 405 6062
Confidential fax: 0171 831 6394
Web: www.qdgroup.com

This assignment is being exclusively handled by QD In-House Legal and all direct or third party applications will be forwarded to them for consideration.





SO TEMPTING, CAN IT BE LEGAL?

Now it's easy to set up your own practice. Hampden Legal provides a complete professional infrastructure and network including City office, secretarial support, sophisticated IT, legal library and full management accountancy functions. Call us today for more information.



42 Crutched Friars, London, EC3N 2AP
Telephone: 0171 709 1500
Speak to Fiona Begley, Anthony Rose or Charlie Oliver



Working for conservation

This is unique opportunity to become a key part of one of Europe's most effective and respected environmental organisations.

Legal Adviser

Salary circa £23k
Sandy, Bedfordshire

The RSPB is Europe's largest voluntary nature conservation organisation, with over one million members, and part of a global partnership called BirdLife International. We work for the conservation of birds and their habitats and through this the diversity of all life.

We want a lawyer, who shares our commitment to the protection of the environment, to back-up our policy advocacy and casework staff. Legal analysis plays a key role in much of our campaigning. We also want to streamline our use of the legal process and improve our success rates in protecting important sites.

You will need professional qualifications; around three years experience working as a lawyer; a solid grasp of environmental law and the planning system and preferably EU and public international law too. You will need to be a good communicator and a diplomat. Some experience of advocacy, whether formal or informal (campaigning or lobbying), is desirable.

An understanding of nature conservation would be helpful. The post will involve travel around the UK and possibly abroad.

Interested applicants should send a CV and covering letter to: Personnel Department, RSPB, The Lodge, Sandy, Beds SG19 2DL.

Closing date:
Wednesday 21 April 1999

THE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION OF BIRDS
Registered Charity Number 207076



Oury Clark - Solicitors
Oury Clark - Chartered Accountants

This strategic alliance has grown rapidly since its inception offering a broad range of accounting and legal services from its offices in London and Slough.

We are now seeking an able conveyancer with commercial and residential experience to join the team. This is an exciting opportunity. Excellent salary offered.

Apply with CV to:-

Oury Clark
P O Box 150
Cippenham Court
Cippenham Lane
Slough SL1 5AT
Ref: RAO

Oury Calrk
54 Jermyn Street
St James's
London
SL1Y 6LX
Ref: JEO



APPOINTMENTS TO THE OFFICE OF CIRCUIT JUDGE

The Lord Chancellor invites applications from suitably qualified persons for appointment to the office of Circuit Judge. Successful applicants will be recommended to The Queen for appointment to the Circuit Bench to fill vacancies arising between 1 April 2000 and 31 March 2001.

Applications may be made by those who have held a right of audience in the Crown Court or county courts for a period of ten years. They should normally be aged between 45 and 60 on 1 April 2000 and have served in the office of Recorder (not necessarily on the circuit to which they seek assignment as a Circuit Judge) for a period of 2 years prior to that date.

Applications may also be made by those who have served in the office of District Judge for a period of 3 years on 1 April 2000.

The Lord Chancellor will recommend for appointment the candidates who appear to him to be best qualified regardless of ethnic origin, gender, marital status, sexual orientation, political affiliation, religion or (subject to the physical requirements of the office) disability.

An application form, together with a job description, note of the criteria for appointment, and further information for applicants, is available by telephoning 0171-210 8983 (voicemail will operate outside normal office hours) or by writing to:

Circuit Bench Appointments (JGD 1B)
Lord Chancellor's Department
Selborne House
54/60 Victoria Street
London SW1E 6QW
e-mail: jag.lcdhq@gtnet.gov.uk

Completed application forms must be returned by noon on Friday 14 May 1999



APPOINTMENTS TO THE OFFICE OF CIRCUIT JUDGE TO SIT IN THE MERCANTILE COURT AT CARDIFF (GROUP 5)

The Lord Chancellor invites applications from suitably qualified persons for appointment to the office of Circuit Judge to sit in the Mercantile Court at Cardiff. The vacancy is expected to arise later this year.

Applications may be made by serving Circuit Judges in England and Wales and by those who have held a right of audience in the Crown Court or county courts for a period of ten years. They should normally be aged between 45 and 60 on 1 September 1999.

The Lord Chancellor will recommend for appointment the candidate who appears to him to be best qualified regardless of ethnic origin, gender, marital status, sexual orientation, political affiliation, religion or (subject to the physical requirements of the office) disability.

An application form, together with a job description, note of the criteria for appointment, and further information for applicants, is available by telephoning 0171-210-8983 (voicemail will operate outside normal office hours) or by writing to:

Circuit Bench Appointments (JGD 1B)
Lord Chancellor's Department
Selborne House
54/60 Victoria Street
LONDON SW1E 6QW
e-mail: jag.lcdhq@gtnet.gov.uk

Completed application forms must be returned by noon on Friday 29 April 1999

HAMPSHIRE MAGISTRATES' COURTS COMMITTEE

APPOINTMENT OF LEGAL TEAM MANAGER

SALARY RANGE £29,535 - £32,235 p.a. (plus £2,000 p.a. Lawyer's Professional Qualification Supplement)

Applications are invited for this post from persons qualified as Barristers or Solicitors to manage the legal teams and provide legal support services to magistrates in North East and North West Hampshire.

The post holder will report directly to the Head of Legal Services but will be responsible on a daily basis for the work of the P.S.D's to which he/she is appointed.

The post offers the challenge of joining a Magistrates' Courts Service which is at the forefront of innovative change and which is seeking to create a service which responds positively to future demands. The group has a high and varied workload (MIS Category I) and the successful applicant will need to demonstrate a significant record of successful operational involvement in the work of magistrates' courts, and will be expected to contribute to the further strategic development of the service in Hampshire.

The closing date for receipt of applications: *Friday 30 April 1999.*

Interviews will be held at Aldershot Magistrates' Court on Thursday 13 May 1999.

For an application form and information package, please telephone Miss Laurie Croad on 01705-492227

Hampshire Magistrates' Courts Committee
The Court House, Elmleigh Road, Havant, Hampshire, PO9 2AL

HMCC is an Equal Opportunities Employer

ALL BOX NUMBER REPLIES SHOULD BE ADDRESSED TO: BOX No............
c/o TIMES NEWSPAPERS P.O.BOX 3553,
VIRGINIA ST,
LONDON, E1 9GA

TO ADVERTISE CALL
0171 680 6828

LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

FAX:
0171 782 7899

LITIGATION PARTNERS BREAKING THE MOULD

April 26th is indelibly marked in every litigator's diary as the date their lives will change. Radical reforms will hopefully lead to a simpler system for litigants and their lawyers. Litigation departments throughout the country have been busy planning for the changes for months – our Client, however, has been ahead of the game for years.

Litigation and alternative dispute resolution are the bedrocks of this dynamic London firm. With a wealth of expertise in, for example, all aspects of partnership, regulatory, construction and banking/recovery disputes, the firm is ideally placed to increase its market share.

Due to planned growth the firm is looking to integrate further partners in areas such as insurance, employment, intellectual property and information technology. You will be an established name in your sector and must have demonstrable practice development skills.

The litigation world is going through great change. If you want to be right at the heart of it we would like to hear from you.

www.zarakgroup.com

For further information in complete confidence please contact Jonathan Brenner or Debbie Cochrane on 0171 523 1240 (0181 940 6848 evenings/weekends) or write to them at ZMB, 37 Sun Street, London EC2M 2PL. Confidential fax 0171 523 3839.
E-mail **jonathan.brenner@zarakgroup.com**



London Manchester Sydney New York Toronto Vancouver Calgary

INTERNATIONAL MEDIA COMPANY

Legal Adviser

South East *£Negotiable + bens + car*

Listed in New York, this fast growing entertainment company operates a DTH platform and cable network - comprising 22 channels of programming. With the planned launch of a premium sports channel and increase of channel output to 32, the company expects to establish a premier position in the European market, having successfully completed a major bond and equity financing programme.

Since its inception in 1997 the company has expanded rapidly and now seeks a 2-5 year qualified media/commercial lawyer to take on a pivotal role at this crucial and exciting time in its development. Reporting to the Head of Legal, but working closely alongside the DTH management, the successful individual will be part of the programming management team, based at its operational headquarters in the South East.

You will need television experience, preferably programming acquisitions - either in-house from a TV, video or film company, or one of their distributors - or from a private practice firm recognised for their expertise in this area. Exposure to international transaction work will be an advantage. With a good academic background, you should have an outgoing, proactive and commercial approach with the ability to gain credibility quickly both here and internationally. With a flexible outlook, you will need energy, vigour and enthusiasm to adapt well to the pioneering spirit of this dynamic and innovative company.

This is an excellent opportunity for a lawyer keen to take early responsibility and to break out of a strict legal role into the operational front line. A negotiable salary and benefits package.

For further information, in complete confidence, please contact **June Mearie** or **Kate Sutcliffe** on 0171 405 6062 (0181 442 0841 or 0956 569 203 evenings/weekends), or write to them at **QD In-House Legal.**

Email mearieja@qdgroup.co.uk
sutclifk@qdgroup.co.uk

QD In-House Legal
37-41 Bedford Row
London WC1R 4JH

Tel:
0171 405 6062

Confidential fax:
0171 831 6394

Web:
www.qdgroup.com





PRACTICE

Comm Property **2 - 4 yrs' pqe**
Ambitious solicitor required to join an up and coming City property team. First-class client base for solicitor with retail and development work exp.
Ref: 414972 **Claire Weston**

Litigation Prof Supp **4 yrs'+ pqe**
Professional support lawyer required for key City practice, dealing with general litigation issues, including insurance matters. Rare opportunity.
Ref: 36699 **Jessica Jay**

Shipping **2-5 yrs' pqe**
Leading City medium-sized firm requires lawyer with experience in dry shipping litigation. Exp of High Court and arbitration hearings favourable.
Ref: 44191 **Jessica Jay**

INDUSTRY/BANKS

Mortgage Lending **1-3 yrs pqe**
High-profile financial services organisation seeks forward-thinking lawyer to work on legal matters arising from its residential mortgage portfolio.
Ref: 28262 **Jessica Jay**

Telecoms - Europe **3-5 yrs' pqe**
Corporate/commercial lawyers with regulatory exp are sought by a leading telecoms company for numerous roles throughout Europe. Languages useful.
Ref: 21452 **Andrew Regan**

Derivatives **5-10 yrs' pqe**
High-calibre senior derivatives lawyer sought for pivotal role at leading bulge-bracket firm. Fixed income, equity, emerging markets and hedging exp.
Ref: 25174 **Claire Hine**

"Aim high!"

PSD
Reuter Simkin Legal Recruitment

PSD Reuter Simkin
28 Essex Street
London WC2R 3AT
Telephone 0171 970 9700
Facsimile 0171 936 3978
E-mail sim.fourie@psdgroup.com
Internet www.psdgroup.com





Europe Asia North America

BARCLAYS | Senior Litigation Lawyer | Retail Financial Services | c.5 yrs' pqe | London

Barclays Bank PLC is an equal opportunities employer.

Barclays, a bank with a clear vision for the future, has recently established a completely new legal structure as part of its continued commitment to excellence. Lawyers are an integral part of the business, providing high-class advice from within the areas they serve.

As a result, an excellent opportunity now exists for a solicitor or barrister to take overall responsibility for litigation within the many businesses of the Retail Financial Services Division of Barclays. Work will involve managing a team of lawyers; deciding policy and strategy for the team; maintaining effective systems for the management of caseloads and co-ordinating litigation with external lawyers.

Candidates should have at least 4-5 years' post-qualification experience in large-scale litigation cases including a strong track record in banking litigation, gained either from a leading law firm or in-house. This is a pivotal role requiring first-rate technical expertise, commercial acumen, drive and the confidence necessary for a position with this level of autonomy.

In return, a comprehensive remuneration package is on offer.

This appointment represents a rare chance for litigator to work not only in-house, but for a blue-chip UK FTSE 100 organisation with a dedicated legal department.

For further information, call our exclusively retained consultants, James Newman or Claire Hine, at PSD Reuter Simkin. Alternatively send your CV with covering letter to the address/fax number below, quoting reference 44335. All direct or third party applications will be forwarded to PSD Reuter Simkin.



PSD Reuter Simkin
28 Essex Street
London WC2R 3AT
Telephone 0171 970 9675
Facsimile 0171 936 3978
E-mail lichjn@psdgroup.com
Internet www.psdgroup.com



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

THE WIDEST CHOICE

▶ Corp/Fin & Co/Co Lawyers 3-5 Years' PQE **The Caribbean**
Some of the region's largest and best known law firms have opportunities for solicitors or barristers with at least three years' experience in the above areas of law, gained from a well known City firms or chambers. The work includes a variety of finance related matters on behalf of an international client base and applications would be especially welcome from candidates with backgrounds in mutual funds, structured finance and capital markets. The positions offer the opportunity to gain excellent experience handling a top quality workload in an attractive environment. For more information please contact **Sean Mulherin.** **Ref: 4099**

▶ Property Litigation **£Top City**
This international practice is one of the City's leading firms and is now looking to further expand its property litigation group by the addition of a lawyer with up to 2 years' experience in this field. If you wish to join this highly regarded and focused team, working with a caseload and client base of the highest quality where the opportunities for advancement will be unfettered, contact **Özlem Avni.** **Ref: 113**

▶ Projects/Power **Senior Assistant/Partner Designate**
An excellent opportunity has arisen in this highly regarded medium sized City firm's Corporate Group for a Senior Power/Projects Lawyer. High quality work will include infrastructure projects, fuel supply and purchase agreements, and Eastern Europe work, in a structure where there will be no bars to progression. Contact **Özlem Avni.** **Ref: 4133**

▶ Private Client **Essex**
The private client work of this leading practice stems from corporate and agricultural clients and high net worth individuals. There is a position for either a senior lawyer capable of leading and developing a department or a more junior solicitor with a minimum of three years' experience. In either case, you will be commercially aware with a strong interest in marketing. You should have experience in estate planning, wills, tax and trusts. The position holds terrific potential to develop the department further. Please contact **Andre Field.** **Ref: 755**

US FIRMS IN LONDON

We are looking for exceptional lawyers, preferably working for a top ten City firm or leading regional practice in one of the specialisms referred to below. We especially require people who are happy in their current role but who would be interested in taking a look at practices where their workload is similar, the environment exciting, the client base is unrivalled and salaries between ten and sixty percent above City rates. Why not take two minutes and call us for more information?

Corporate:	0-6 yrs PQE	Insolvency:	0-6 yrs PQE
Structured Fin:	0-6 yrs PQE	Corp Tax:	1-6 yrs PQE
IP:	3-7 yrs PQE	Banking:	2-6 yrs PQE

Please contact **James Yates.**

▶ EU/Competition – 1-3 Years' PQE **Brussels**
For information on excellent opportunities to work with leading firms in the heart of Europe, please contact Sean Mulherin. **Ref: 468**

▶ French M&A Lawyer **Paris or Luxembourg**
This $20+ billion US multinational has a requirement for a high calibre French lawyer with extensive M&A experience to assume a new role based in either Paris or Luxembourg. Ideally you will be French qualified although candidates qualified elsewhere with experience of living and working in Paris will be considered. This is a hands-on role that will require a flexible and adaptable approach and involve interaction at the most senior levels both internally and externally. Contact Naveen Tuli. **Ref: 4042**

▶ Regulatory Affairs Counsel **London**
This fast growing international telecommunications company is currently seeking a 3+ years' qualified lawyer, either with telecoms regulatory or EC competition law experience to deal with a variety of legal matters and be responsible for monitoring regulatory developments in the UK and Ireland. Contact **Rachael North.** **Ref: 4164**

▶ European Commercial/IT Role **London**
Our client is a worldwide provider of IT services and business solutions. Reporting to the General Counsel in the US, our client seeks an additional senior lawyer with between 5 and 10 years' experience IT/IP and general commercial matters. Contact **Rachael North.** **Ref: 4155**

▶ Property Development **Berkshire**
This expanding property development company is looking to recruit a 1 to 4 years' qualified solicitor to deal with all aspects of property acquisition and development. A stock market flotation is planned. Contact **Shona McDougall** on Tel: 01223 516001; Fax: 01223 516002. **Ref: 4140**

▶ Patents (European Role) **London**
This high technology company has an opportunity for a European Patent Attorney capable of handling electro mechanical inventions in a highly commercial role. Contact **Laurence Simons** personally. **Ref: 4143**

▶ Company Commercial **London**
This professional services firm has an attractive opportunity for a good all rounder, ideally with 4 or more years' experience. The firm specialises in advising owner managed businesses and the work is varied and interesting. Contact **Shona McDougall** on 01223 516001 or **Laurence Simons** personally. **Ref: 3983**



LAURENCE SIMONS
International Legal Recruitment
Professional, Proactive and Personal

Craven House, 121 Kingsway, London WC2B 6PA. Tel +44 (0)171 831 3270, Fax +44 (0)171 831 4429
Evenings (after 7pm)/Weekends Tel: +44 (0)181 203 9080
E-mail: laurence@laurencesimons.demon.co.uk

In-House • Practice in London

Nationwide & International — New jobs this week

SWINDON **c.3-5yrs**
Great opportunity for a commercial lawyer to join division of blue chip co. Working closely with management, the role will involve dealing with a wide range of complex contractual issues. Generous package.

SNR CLAIMS MANAGER **c.£40k + package**
Bromley- Blue Chip co seeks a senior claims lawyer as a first time appointment. With a minimum of 3yrs insurance litigation & some motor claims exp'ce this is a unique opportunity to join a UK market leader.

COMMERCIAL **c.3-5yrs**
London- Commercial lawyer with heavyweight contracts experience sought to join team at blue chip IT co. Some IT exp'ce ideal but not essential. Lawyers with major provincial firms are encouraged to apply.

PARIS **c.3-6yrs**
International legal team of top multinational seeks a commercial lawyer with broad international experience to deal with major projects in the Asian & Middle Eastern markets. Some travel. Spoken French required.

INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS **2-5yrs**
London- Outstanding opportunity with leading finance house for UK qualified lawyer with projects/int'l transactions experience to deal with portfolios in South America. Spanish language skills required.

SOUTH COAST **to c.£40k**
Leading co. seeks adaptable, business minded commercial lawyer to handle diverse range of contract, finance, employment and dispute related work. Personality is key and our client is flexible on pqe level.

INTERNET/NEW MEDIA **c.3yrs+**
Herts - Dynamic & fast expanding internet service provider seeks sole charge commercial lawyer with exp. in IT/new media to deal with world wide web issues. c£40+ full package inc car.

INSOLVENCY/BANKING **5yrs+**
London- Leading investment bank seeks high calibre lawyer with cross-border insolvency/financial restructuring experience to join legal team dealing with major projects. Languages a plus. To c £75k.

EUROPEAN TELECOMS **3-4yrs+**
France, Spain, Belgium & the Netherlands- Major telecoms group seeks locally qualified lawyers with regulatory/corporate experience for broad-based roles managing local operations. Salary to £50k + package.

CONSTRUCTION **1-4yrs**
An ideal opportunity to undertake both contentious and non-contentious work acting for a broad range of clients at this top City firm. You will receive a high degree of support and will work in a friendly, close knit team.

PFI/PROJECTS **NQ-2yrs**
A mix of property, private finance and projects work is on offer at this 'big name' City firm. You should have a solid property background, preferably from a City firm, and a desire to broaden your experience into projects work.

COMMERCIAL/IP **1-3yrs**
If you have a sound training and have gained good post-qualification experience in these areas, this firm of unrivalled reputation could be your ideal move. You will handle a mixed caseload of IP and general commercial matters and act for a diverse client base.

COMMERCIAL LITIGATION **NQ-2yrs**
Our client, a popular 40 partner firm, rarely recruits at this level, but now has a fantastic opportunity for a junior litigator to undertake top quality commercial litigation in a thriving team. Strong academics and good City experience vital.

EMPLOYMENT **1-3yrs**
This firm offers a genuine 'quality of life' move. Working in a congenial environment undertaking a largely contentious workload this practice offers a very 'different' option if you are currently working at a larger City firm.

TRADEMARKS **1-5yrs**
Arguably one of the leading trademarks practices in the City, this team offers a fabulous opportunity for a solicitor or qualified trademark agent to undertake a diverse workload on behalf of an enviable client base. Personality is as important as experience.

COMMERCIAL **2yrs+**
There's a real buzz about the co/com team at this popular City practice. A great working environment where your contribution is really appreciated makes this a refreshing alternative to big City firms. Corporate lawyers wishing to handle more commercial work will also be considered.

PROPERTY **2-4yrs**
Very attractive move for a City trained property lawyer wanting a change of culture with top quality work. This well known property team can offer both.

LICENSING **1-5yrs**
This 30 partner firm based in Clerkenwell seeks an assistant to join its flourishing Licensing team. Working closely with 2 partners, this is a rare opportunity to work on some unusually interesting matters.

BANKING LITIGATION **NQ & 3-5yrs**
This City firm is a leader in the area of banking litigation and a strong reputation for an innovative and commercial approach. Its long history of working with the banking and finance industry makes it a particularly attractive move for lawyers at these two levels of qualification.

CORPORATE KNOW HOW **Full/Part time**
Unusually broad and interesting role at this medium-sized City firm. Flexible role includes research, marketing and design & implementation of training. In addition to strong corporate experience, an outgoing personality and commercial approach are vital.

COMMERCIAL LITIGATION **1-2yrs**
This small City firm really punches above its weight and is a popular choice with lawyers from bigger 'factory firms'. Ideal opportunity for an ambitious confident junior litigator to make a mark at this refreshingly progressive firm.

PRIVATE CLIENT **NQ-2yrs**
As part of its expansion plans, this breakaway City practice seeks an additional lawyer to deal handle a broad spectrum of private client work for high net worth individuals. The firm offers a healthy, balanced environment, an unusually high level of client contact and real responsibility from the outset.

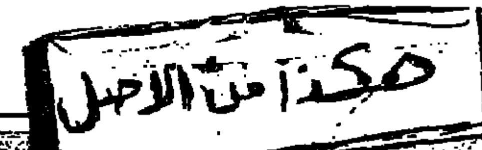
PUBLISHING **Senior**
This popular London firm already leads the field in publishing and advertising and seeks an experienced lawyer to join as a partner and further develop the electronic publishing practice. You should have strong marketing skills and insight into areas such as online bookselling.

TELECOMS **6mths-3yrs & 3-7yrs**
City firm with a strong reputation in this area is experiencing an enormous upturn in work. Good long term prospects and benefits packages are on offer.

Please contact Struan Hall or Helen McAtamney (In-House) or Sophie Brooks, Caroline Fish or Jackie Osbaldeston (London-Practice) on 0171 430 1711 or write to us at Graham Gill & Young Legal Recruitment, 46 Kingsway, London WC2B 6EN. Fax 0171 831 4186. E-mail:ggy@netcomuk.co.uk

GG
GRAHAM GILL & YOUNG

0171 430 1711



LAW

Cybercrime: policing the Internet

The Net is causing huge global problems says Frances Gibb, below. So far, the US has only tackled this crime nationally, says Steven Philippsohn, and music fraud on the Web is rising, says Tony Morris

Internet crime in America over the past year is said to have jumped by 600 per cent and lawyers are predicting a similar trend for Britain. They want government action against cyberfraud, particularly to protect consumers when they trade on the Net.

Tim Anderson, a partner with Reynolds Porter Chamberlain, says that the Government's proposed e-commerce Bill should be used to introduce such safeguards. At present, the consultation paper, entitled *Building Confidence in Electronic Commerce*, does not contain enough practical suggestions for improving consumer confidence. Mr Anderson believes that the Government needs to act pre-emptively.

The National Fraud Information Centre's list of leading Internet crimes includes web auctions (items bid for but never delivered); charges for services thought to be free; empty promises of business opportunities or franchises; false promises of credit cards to people with bad credit histories; and phoney job agencies wanting fees to match people to jobs. Other cons range from bogus investments and false vacation offers to fake scholarship search services and fraudulent prize offers.

But as lawyers grapple with cybercrime, they are also keen to use the Net. Geoff Hoon, Minister of State at the Lord Chancellor's Department, at a recent conference on cyberspace pointed to a coming technological revolution in the justice system: a prisoner in the dock might appear on a video screen, dusty legal tomes would cease to exist as all information went on to the Internet and people could get free legal advice via TV access to the Net. Every part of the system would be linked via the Net and citizens would have direct access to Government and to the courts.

FRANCES GIBB

DANIEL HULSHIZER

Caught in the Net: David L. Smith, a New Jersey computer hacker, was charged with spreading the Melissa e-mail virus

Combating music piracy

A teenager in a bedroom equipped with a PC, modem and album collection may now illegally disseminate CD-quality sound around the world at the push of a button.

New technologies have made the storing and downloading of music over the Internet much easier — particularly so-called MP3 technology which compresses sound files.

Technology is providing some solutions. In America the first mechanical licence has been granted for the online sales of MP3 music which contemplates using embedded licensing numbers in musical works downloaded from a licensee's website. Consumers will then know that the music has been properly licensed and European collecting societies are likely to follow.

The challenge lies with the legislators. The proposal for an EU Copyright Directive, Copyright and Related Rights in the Information Society, places emphasis on new products and services containing intellectual property, both online and on physical carriers such as CDs and digital video discs (DVDs).

The aim is to "harmonise aspects of copyright law and related rights and adjust and complement existing legal framework". Specifically, it focuses on harmonising rules on the right of reproduction; communicating to the public right (including making protected material available on demand over the Net); the distribution right and the legal protection of anti-copying and rights management systems.

The directive was first debated at the European Parliament in February. The International Federation of the Phonographic Industry (IFPI), among others, lobbied for the inclusion of more than 300 amendments. Several key amendments were adopted and the Parliament's opinion was welcomed by the IFPI as giving "a resounding signal of support to artists and musicians by voting for a strong copyright directive".

While the proposed EU Directive focuses on harmonising and tweaking existing law, the Government's 1998 Green Paper on Combating Counterfeiting and Piracy has a broader aim: to determine the economic impact of counterfeiting and piracy, assess how effective are existing laws and make recommendations. Among initiatives suggested are EU support for monitoring of the problems at community level, legal protection of technical devices to trace illegal use back to its source and ensuring consistent enforcement of intellectual property rights throughout member states.

Last month EU Commissioners heard submissions from interested parties. Many of the Green Paper's initiatives were welcomed. The Commission will consult further then publish recommendations.

Ultimately, the consumer should benefit from authorised material being widely available and the continued stream of investment in new artists that will preserve a wide choice of music.

TONY MORRIS

● *The author is head of the music and new media practice at Marriott Harrison, specialist corporate/media lawyers.*

Reality of progress bites

The crippling effects of cybercrime were felt this month as Melissa, an electronic mail virus, spread around the world. Last week an FBI cybercrime unit arrested David L. Smith, an American said to have caused such damage that the US military and companies throughout the country had to shut down e-mail systems. The virus is just one example of a new growth industry. Internet crime is expanding rapidly to encompass everything from child pornography to fraud.

The Net is global but law enforcement is national so states are struggling to police it. International co-operation is essential if, paradoxically, the infringement of national liberties and jurisdictions is to be avoided.

The Net's potential dangers have also arisen in a US court case in Portland, Oregon, that considered the murder of doctors by anti-abortion extremists, after the posting on the Net of the names and addresses of those who perform abortions. The jury awarded $107 million in damages against the website, but it is worth considering the real extent to which any one jurisdiction can control Net crime.

Concern is growing that legislation now being enacted in America could have a global impact. It purports to have no jurisdictional limits and imposes criminal sanctions. It is the US reaction to the problem of Net crime, a national attempt at an international problem which it can only come close to solving by attempting to abrogate to itself international powers without international recognition.

In Europe the focus has been on combating the use of the Net for the distribution of child pornography. But soon more attention must turn to fighting other cybercrime. The current view is that what is illegal offline is illegal online but policing the Net is not a natural progression from normal policing. Encryption allows drug-smugglers a more secure means to discuss details of their shipments while the growth of e-commerce and e-money provides great potential for money laundering. Hackers can break into and threaten to destroy the systems of commercial enterprises to extort money and indeed such extortion of major London financial institutions has been reported. The nightmare of terrorists hacking into government and defence computer networks could soon become reality.



Senator Kyl: ban on "virtual casinos"

Europe must work together or risk losing control to high-tech criminals

European states must address the technical difficulties of detecting cybercrime and problems of jurisdiction. Senator Jon Kyl, a Republican from Arizona, is proposing to regulate Net gaming by criminalising "virtual casinos" and those who use them.

Enforcing laws against virtual casinos and other websites used in cybercrime is tricky. Websites can be set up or dismantled overnight in any part of the world, and it is easy to access them.

The proposed US legislation would impose criminal sanctions on foreign companies and nationals whose gaming websites are accessible by American citizens. If such legislation is adopted, the possibility of unwittingly committing a crime on the other side of the world could lead to websites having to be checked for conformity with the laws of every state in which they are accessible.

In general the European approach has been towards co-operation. The EU endorsed an action plan in June 1997 that urged action "to address the abuse of new technologies, including the Internet". The Commission adopted a Green Paper in 1996 that provided guidelines for self-regulation by Internet service providers (ISPs), and self-regulation has been the preferred approach of many European states.

As for illegal website materials in Britain, the Internet Watch Foundation recommends regulation by reporting such material, rating it and apportioning responsibility between ISPs, the police and end users.

There is no common European policy on how to tackle cybercrime, partly because of cultural diversity. Comparisons can be drawn with the US where there have been conflicting judgments. In Boston a judge upheld a federal law prohibiting possession of computer images of child pornography, yet in Philadelphia a judge ruled that a law prohibiting children accessing porn via the Web was incompatible with the right of free speech.

However, some co-operation has developed in policing the Net. Last September the Office of Fair Trading reported its part in an operation by 20 countries to tackle websites responsible for potentially misleading health claims.

UK police have also been involved in operations to bust international paedophile rings that use the Net to transfer pictures and information.

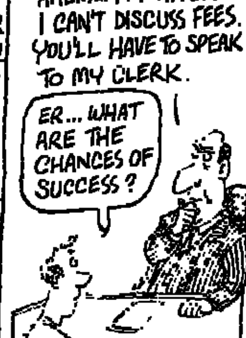
To regulate the Net, more international co-operation is vital. While the US is looking to regulate unilaterally, the European states must work together or risk losing control to high-tech criminals.

STEVEN PHILIPPSOHN

● *The author is a partner with Philippsohn Crawfords Berwald.*













LONDON – PARTNERS & SENIOR ASSOCIATES

EJ • LEGAL
STRATEGIC RECRUITMENT ADVISERS

PROPERTY LITIGATION
£70,000+
The unexpected relocation of a key player to the provinces leads this commercial medium-sized Central London Practice to seek a successor. A demanding but rewarding role exists for the successful candidate will have 5+ years PQE, be charismatic and be able to command respect from an interesting range of clients. Partnership/early partnership prospects offered to selected lawyer. Full caseload available.

CORPORATE PARTNER
£140 - £220,000
Most firms are professing corporate work to be core business for them at present – but do they all back it up with the support that's needed to pull it off? Are they milking a perceived cash cow, or investing in a well-planned, long term strategy? Our client is a well-resourced, well-managed and financially sound partnership with an existing reputation in *several key areas, including insurance and finance. As a new* senior player in the corporate team, your importance to planned development is great, and you can be assured of 100% commitment to shared goals – a controlled and stable development in the corporate arena.

ENERGY
£150,000+
In most firms, energy specialists find they have to light the way, *providing all the power to create a top-rate reputation and* practice. In this forward-thinking partnership, the hard graft has already been done and the energy group is acknowledged as one of the leaders in the field. The team's project now is to ensure they move to the very top of the league and stay there. If you are an energy partner or associate with an established or growing name, you will be welcomed to a department which buzzes with enthusiasm.

IT
£200,000
Where will you be on the night the millennium bug strikes? You could be in the very heart of a happy hi-tech world within a partnership, which does not see IT lawyers as a necessary evil, but rather as the driving force of the practice. Their mission is to continue the growth of this designated area of expertise and become leaders in both Silicon Valley and its European counterparts. If you are a partner associate who shares this vision and has already acted for international clients, this is the right place for you.

INSOLVENCY
To £250,000
Most firms have an insolvency partner on their recruitment wish *list but few actually have the depth of practice to provide a* pool of instructions for an individual with the right range of skills. Personal contracts are, of course, important but what matters most is the ability to fit with a truly international partnership with successful offices in every corner of the globe and enjoying a very close knit culture in the London office. The immediate and long term prospects are unparalleled for an associate or partner with a cosmopolitan outlook and top rate experience.

RETAIL PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT
To £280,000
With one of the City's leading property practices our client, a *substantial and international (UK) firm, combines a reputation* for innovation and sector expertise with collegiality and cross-department support. Small but increasingly high profile and growing fast, the retail property unit, already offering a cutting edge service to blue chip US, European and domestic developers, seeks an ambitious partner with sector experience and flair, to join in the building of London's leading retail property unit.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION
PLEASE CONTACT:
ANITA GÖHL, PENNY TERNDRUP OR
SIMON EAGAN AT
EAGAN JANION RECRUITMENT
44-45 CHANCERY LANE
LONDON WC2A 1JB
TELEPHONE +44 (0)171 404 6669
FACSIMILE +44 (0)171 404 8817
PM & W/E +44 (0)1252 793493
EMAIL info@ejrec.com

Banking & finance lawyers

Equity capital markets
Premier European house

This highly respected full service international organisation has a reputation for both professionalism and maturity in its business approach. It continues to grow organically and by way of a focused strategy of acquisitions.

The equity capital markets business area of investment banking has identified the need for a senior corporate finance lawyer (minimum of 4 years' pqe) with experience of IPOs to perform a commercial, advisory and transactional role as part of the talented Legal Department. The existing team consists of first class lawyers with refreshingly down to earth attitudes from the most senior member down. Remuneration and prospects for progression and first class.

Funds
Legal/company secretarial

Our client is the fund management subsidiary of an international financial services group. With total assets under management exceeding £45 bn and a global presence, it is a market leader.

The group legal department is seeking a further member to be responsible for a mixed portfolio of work advising both operating and administrative departments. The role will encompass general commercial contractual legal advice to the group and board, together with some specific fund and investment trust advice, although prior funds experience is not prerequisite. The position will also involve some secretariat duties and management of a company secretarial assistant, so an in depth knowledge of this area will be essential.

Senior derivatives lawyer
Major European house

Our client is a large full service investment bank who has experienced international development success and is well-known for the speed and innovation of its banking services.

The legal department now wishes to appoint a senior specialist to assume responsibility for the derivatives business and related areas. Ideally candidates will have a min of 4 yrs' pqe and be capable of undertaking the broadest range of matters encompassing complex credit derivatives and structured trades and repackagings. It is also envisaged that the successful individual will manage more junior assistants. This is a unique opportunity to take up this first time appointment and build an expert team within a dynamic and supportive institution.

23 Long Lane, London EC1A 9HL
0171 606 8844 Fax: 600 1793
banking@chambersrecruitment.co.uk


CHAMBERS
BANKING & FINANCE

We recruit lawyers into banks and other financial institutions. Please contact **Deborah Kirkman** or **Stuart Morton.**

TO ADVERTISE CALL 0171 680 6828

LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

FAX: 0171 782 7899



Head of Business Affairs

Granada Film, whose film credits include MY LEFT FOOT, JACK AND SARAH and ROGUE TRADER has steadily expanded its place in the UK film industry and is looking to make 4-5 films per year in the coming 3 years.

We now want to appoint a new Head of Business Affairs to make a substantial contribution to driving forward the production and distribution of our output. We are looking for someone who can work at the highest level within our organisation in order to manage the many commercial relationships involved in each film project.

Already with significant experience in the film industry the successful candidate will be able to demonstrate deal making and influencing skills as well as commercial judgement and drive. This position may suit a lawyer from the industry with 5 plus years' experience and management ability.

The reward package will be related to experience but will be attractive for the right candidate.

Granada Media is an equal opportunities employer and positively welcomes applications from all sections of the community.

Applications should be made in the first instance to Kate Sutcliffe or June Mesrié at QD In-House Legal (0956 589 203 or 0181 442 0841 evenings/weekends).

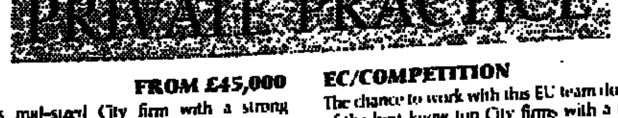
email: sutclik@qdgroup.co.uk
mesrieje@qdgroup.co.uk

QD In-House Legal
37-41 Bedford Row
London
WC1R 4JH

Tel: 0171 405 6062
Confidential fax: 0171 831 6394
Web: www.qdgroup.co.uk

INVESTOR IN PEOPLE





BANKING — **FROM £45,000**
The banking practice of this mid-sized City firm with a strong international reputation is fast growing and requires a first rate banking lawyer with at least 5 years' experience to join its expanding team. Acting for an excellent client base comprising major European banks and corporations, the work load will be extremely varied, covering a broad range of international and domestic financing transactions and regulatory issues. (Ref. 26350)

CORPORATE — **TO £55,000**
This major City firm, with strong international links, enjoys a broad based corporate practice and has an immediate need for further assistant solicitors as a result of its on-going success. If you have up to 4 years' good experience in corporate/commercial work and sound academic credentials, then this could be the right move. Excellent training and support are on offer as well as a highly competitive salary and benefits package. (Ref. 26229)

EMPLOYMENT — **TO £50,000**
The highly regarded employment department of this City firm is enjoying significant growth and as part of this growth is seeking two 3 – 4 year qualified employment lawyers. The successful candidates will join a thriving team, advising on both contentious and non contentious matters for an incredibly wide and interesting range of clients. This could be for you if you are keen to get out and about and enjoy marketing and business development activities. (Ref. 26067)

INSOLVENCY — **TO £48,000**
Renowned for its excellence in non contentious insolvency work, this magic circle firm is on the look out for additional talent to join its growing team. With 1-5 years' experience in non contentious insolvency law, the successful person will display technical excellence and an enthusiasm for business development activities. In return for your input you will receive a top salary and very attractive benefits. (Ref. 26294)

LITIGATION — **FROM £38,000**
The extremely progressive London office of this national firm is seeking a commercial litigator with between 2 and 4 years' pqe. You must be personable and out-going as you will be expected to take responsibility for dealing with your own clients within a supportive environment. A large proportion of the workload will be IT related so experience in this area would be an advantage. (Ref. 26405)

EC/COMPETITION — **TO £60,000**
The chance to work with this EU team doesn't come up that often. One of the best know top City firms with a terrific international network and blue chip client base is now looking to recruit two EU/Competition lawyers, one at the 3 year level, and one at the 1-3 level. The successful candidates need to bring incisive legal minds and a commercial approach to the group. Excellent overall package with all the benefits you would expect. (Ref. 25011)

CONSTRUCTION — **TO £52,000**
Construction lawyers with 2-4 years' pqe will be hard pressed to find an opportunity as attractive as this. Working as part of a cohesive team you will be involved in both contentious and non contentious work acting for top notch national and international clients. The firm is committed to growing this area, so you will enjoy unrivalled career progression opportunities in an atmosphere conducive to enjoying your work. (Ref. 26360)

CO/CO BRUSSELS — **EXCELLENT PACKAGE**
Brussels beckons, and this is one firm where you can be assured of a fresh, innovative approach and a reputation for commercial excellence. Co/co lawyers with 1-3 years' pqe and an outgoing personality will enjoy a broader than usual workbase, to include some competition matters. Clients are first rate, and the business culture in Brussels ensures that you will work closely with them, and enjoy high levels of responsibility (Ref. 26376)

PFI/PROJECTS — **TO £42,000**
Are you a property lawyer seeking a change? If so, this should be of interest. One of the City's most dynamic PFI/Projects departments is specifically interested in property lawyers with 0-2 years' pqe, a commercial approach and a desire to broaden their experience to get involved in PFI /Projects work for, among others, high profile developers, NHS Trusts and Government Departments. A terrific opportunity to branch out. (Ref. 25295)

BANKING LITIGATION — **£32,500**
One of the City's top banking litigation practices is offering a superb opportunity to a March '99 or September '99 qualifier. You will be enthusiastic about a career at a dynamic firm in the specialist area of banking litigation. Working with some of the leading players in this field, you will be involved in exciting work for first tier banking clients. You will be met by excellent remuneration and a commitment to your on going training. (Ref. 26568)

For further information on private practice vacancies please contact **Fiona Bennett** or **Andrew Caulfield** (both qualified lawyers) on 0171 523 1240 (0171 359 5937 evenings/weekends). Fax 0171 523 3839. E-mail **fiona.bennett@zarakgroup.com**
Alternatively please write to them at ZMB, 37 Sun Street, London EC2M 2PL.

www.zarakgroup.com

ZMB
ZARAK MACRAE BRENNER
THE ZARAK GROUP

London Manchester Leeds Sydney New York Toronto Vancouver Calgary

BETTER DAYS

COMMERCIAL PROPERTY — **To £60,000**
This leading international law firm has one of the friendliest commercial property departments of all the top City firms. The work is of excellent quality ranging from big ticket development work, portfolio work and more usual of the mill landlord and tenant and acquisitions and disposals. You will be newly qualified to 4 years pqe. Ref: T13940

EC – BRUSSELS — **To £80,000**
Work at the cutting edge of EC law in Brussels. This highly regarded US firm is now seeking an additional lawyer with between 2 and 6 years pqe to undertake a mixture of international trade and regulatory work. This position offers an ambitious EC lawyer with excellent academics the opportunity to really shine. Ref: T62310

EMPLOYMENT — **To £53,000**
With a top notch corporate client base including a number of major financial institutions, this top 20 firm has an employment workload which is the envy of many of its competitors. The firm is now looking to add an employment specialist with between 2 and 4 years' pqe to undertake a mixture of contentious and non-contentious matters. Ref: T19786

CORPORATE/COMMERCIAL — **To £48,000**
Size is not everything. This very blue chip medium-sized firm has a superb range of M&A, general corporate and private equity work and now seeks an additional lawyer with up to 3 years' experience. With exceptional quality work and a congenial working environment, few lawyers leave this firm. Ref: T48871

IT — **To £42,000**
This medium-sized firm has one of the country's leading IP practices. It should come as no surprise to discover that the firm is also attracting an excellent reputation for IT work as well. If you have between 1 and 2 years' pqe you will be assured day one of obtaining some first rate experience with superb opportunities for career development. Ref: T39030

BANKING — **To £80,000 +**
This top line medium-sized practice with a very clear strategy and sense of direction now seeks to strengthen its banking practice to put it along side its corporate department as one of the top rated departments in the City. Senior banking lawyers at assistant or partner level from leading City firms required for top pay and top prospects. Ref: T4374

COMMERCIAL - JERSEY — **20% Tax Rate**
Wonderful opportunity to undertake the highest quality commercial work with one of Jersey's "star" firms. Work includes banking, investments and securitisation. All you need is 3-5 years' pqe as a commercial lawyer and the desire to work in a beautiful and relaxed environment with top City rates. Ref: T39488

SENIOR CORPORATE — **To £70,000**
This boutique City firm boasts some of the best international work in the City. If you have a minimum of 5 years' experience and are looking for better prospects and a more dynamic and commercial environment then this firm is what you have been waiting for. Ref: T60923

FINANCE — **To £60,000**
This top ten City firm is continuing to grow its already established banking practice. If you have experience in either capital markets, project finance or acquisition finance and are tired of being pigeonholed or specialising then this firm will offer you the opportunity to gain a broad range of the work you really want to do. Ref: T39033

CORPORATE TAX — **To £75,000**
This leading medium-sized practice has a highly regarded tax group. It now seeks a 2-6 year qualified specialist in this area who wishes to work both on corporate and finance based transactions. Top pay and top prospects in integral practice group. Ref: T24862

PROPERTY FINANCE — **To £55,000**
This medium-sized City firm offers its lawyers a healthy lifestyle as well as quality work. They are strong in all their core areas and seeking to further grow their property finance practice. If you have approximately two to five years' relevent experience and want to get off the treadmill of a larger institution then this might be the one for you. Ref: T60162

COMMERCIAL LITIGATION — **To £62,000**
This top ten City firm has an unimpeachable record and profile in the commercial litigation arena. It now seeks a number of assistants at the 2-4 year qualified level. You must have excellent technical pedigree as well as commercial nous and proactive litigation instincts. Engine room department. Ref: T60510

For further information, in complete confidence, please contact Nick **Shilton, Greg Abrahams** or **Seamus Hoar** (all qualified lawyers) on 0171 405 6062 (0171 385 7017 or 0171 435 4663 evenings/weekends) or write to them at **QD Legal**.

email: shiltonn@qdgroup.co.uk
abrahamg@qdgroup.co.uk

QD Legal
37-41 Bedford Row
London WC1R 4JH

Tel: 0171 405 6062
Confidential fax: 0171 831 6394
Web: www.qdgroup.com

London	Hong Kong
Birmingham	Singapore
Bristol	New York
Leeds	Washington DC
Manchester	Toronto
Paris	Vancouver
Frankfurt	Sydney
Köln	Melbourne
Rotterdam	Johannesburg

INVESTOR IN PEOPLE



MARKS & SPENCER
FINANCIAL SERVICES

Company Secretary

CHESTER — £ COMPETITIVE + CAR + BENEFITS

Company Profile
- With over 6 million customers being serviced by 1,300 employees, Marks & Spencer Financial Services is the fastest growing part of the Marks & Spencer Group.
- Marks & Spencer Financial Services is one of the three main divisions of the leading retailer Marks & Spencer plc.
- It provides a range of products and services including the store card, personal loans, unit trusts, life assurance and pensions.
- A first Company Secretary is now required to support and complement the newly appointed board.

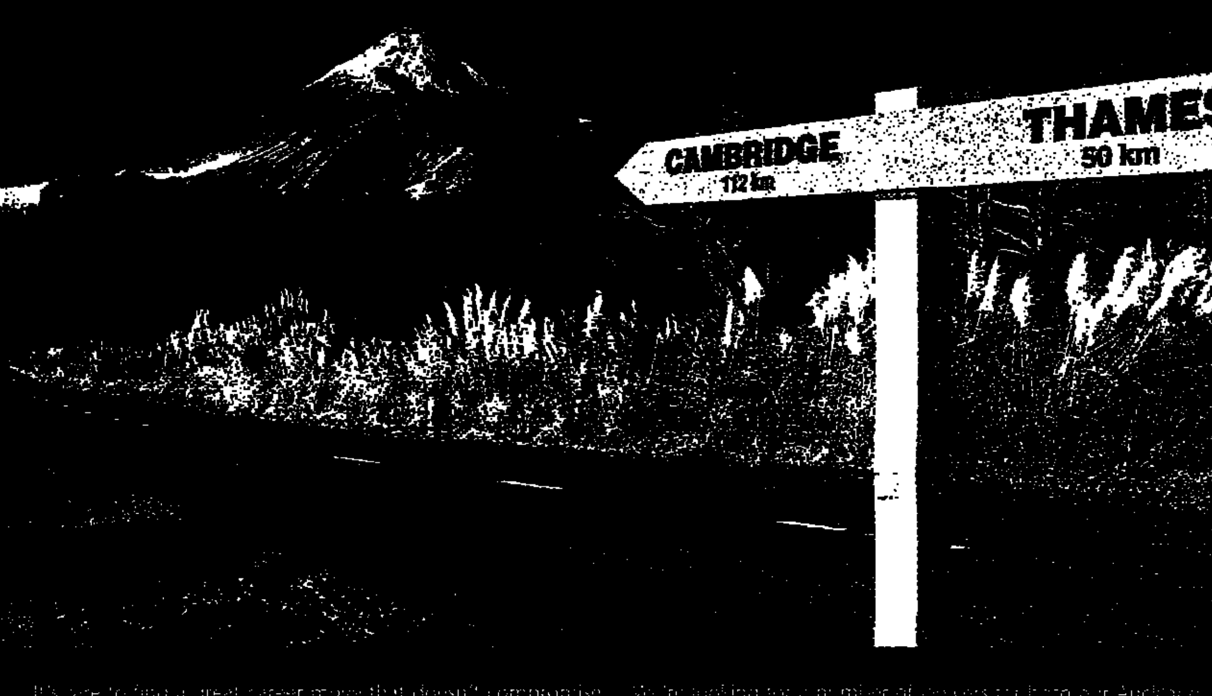
Role
- Based in Chester and reporting to the Chief Executive, you will add value by providing a comprehensive company secretarial and administrative service.
- Duties will combine providing strong professional support and advice to all levels of management, meetings, statutory and financial services compliance, legal support (on a provide or procure basis), internal audit and a variety of commercial and administrative projects and accountabilities depending on the job holder's experience.

Candidate
- You will be professionally qualified (Lawyer or Chartered Secretary) with several years' experience relevant to the role.
- Technically proficient and a credible senior team player you will also possess excellent communication and relationship skills.A financial services background is preferred.
- This is a rare opportunity for a senior professional to make a real difference to a successful operation in a choice location.The exceptional benefits package (salary, car or car allowance and excellent benefits to include relocation assistance where applicable) and award-winning work environment will prove highly attractive.

Please write promptly in confidence with cv and salary details to Graham Campbell, MSL Search and Selection, 178-202 Great Portland Street, London W1N 6JJ. Tel: 0171 631 2300, Fax: 0171 637 2965. Alternatively, apply on-line via the Monster Board at http://www.monster.co.uk Please quote reference: GC0005. Marks & Spencer Financial Services is an equal opportunities employer.

MSL
SEARCH AND SELECTION

New Zealand is half a world away but closer than you think.



It's rare to find a great career move that doesn't compromise your lifestyle. They're out there but to find them, you sometimes have to look a little further afield. With this kind of vision, you'll see that some career moves can actually enhance your way of life.

Firmly and long established as one of New Zealand's premier law firms, Russell McVeagh can offer you a career move with the level of involvement and exposure to challenging work that only a firm built on the concept of a partnership can provide. Beyond that, you'll be free to explore the myriad of possibilities that New Zealand's landscape has to offer.

Ideally, with 6 – 9 years post qualification experience to your credit, you'll be wanting to make your mark on some high profile projects both national and international, in an environment where professionalism and success are the defining characteristics.

We're looking for a number of lawyers for both our Auckland and Wellington offices, in all areas of the law. Partners will be in London and available to interview in the second quarter of 1999. If your career and your lifestyle could benefit from a change of scene, you owe it to yourself to hear what we have to offer.

To apply, please contact Megan Ritchie, Russell McVeagh McKenzie Bartleet & Co, PO Box 8, Auckland, New Zealand. Telephone 64-9-367 8310, confidential fax 64-9-367 8598 or email megan.ritchie@rmmb.co.nz

For more information on Russell McVeagh and New Zealand you can visit our homepage on www.rmmb.co.nz and the NZ Tourism homepage on www.nztb.govt.nz

RUSSELL McVEAGH McKENZIE BARTLEET & CO

In-House

Commercial lawyer — *Paris*

Opportunity for UK qual solr with 3-5 years' commercial expce, which should include mergers and acquisitions, to join highly acquisitive, successful and expanding international services company. Much of the role will involve handling commercial negotiations on behalf of the company and liaising with outside law firms. Must have a confident and dynamic personality to represent the company effectively. Fluency in French essential.An excellent salary and package will be offered to reflect the importance attached to this new appointment.

Employment lit — *Berks*

We have a rare opportunity for a litigator looking to move in-house. Our client, a well-known company with a variety of interests in the leisure and entertainment sector, requires a solr or barr with min 2 yrs' pqe to handle a caseload of predominantly employment matters, including some non-contentious advice.You may also have the opportunity to become involved with other commercial disputes so general comml litigators could also apply.You will be joining a particularly friendly team in a recently restructured dept. Good package available for the right candidate.

Contact: Sonya Rayner or Morwenna Lewis
e-mail: industry@chambersrecruitment.co.uk

London/Overseas

Project finance — *US firm*

Top quality international work and New York salaries (£68-83k plus bonus) offered by London office of major US firm. 2-5 yr qual solrs sought for thriving team handling major energy and infrastructure projects for banks and sponsors.

Employment — *City*

Top ten US firm, long established in London (not a high-risk start up), seeks 3-7 yr qual solr for mainly non-cont caseload advising both UK & US cos on termination and redundancies. Transactional/employment tribunal expce an advantage.

IT/telecoms — *US firm*

Superb salary package at internationally renowned IT/telecoms firm for asst c. 2-5 yrs' pqe. Firm handles complex pan-Atlantic and global technology transactions for financial institutions, European cos & governmental clients. To £80K.

Prof support lawyers — *City*

We have many psl positions for corporate, banking, EU, property and lit solrs wishing to work full-time. These suit lawyers who enjoy working for major firms, are seeking high salaries, but do not wish to work long hours or weekends.

David Woolfson, Paul Thomas, Emma Ridley
e-mail: london@chambersrecruitment.co.uk

US law firms

Many lawyers, partners and assistant solicitors, are interested in positions with American firms. Rightly so. There are some terrific openings on the market. But candidates must be selective. Not all US firms are the same. Whilst many solicitors have made highly successful moves, we have seen several instances where the reality has fallen short of the promise.

Many City solicitors will have had regular dealings with the principal Wall Street firms. But what about the others? How are they regarded in their home base? What is their true reputation? How are they viewed by their clients and by the major banks and multinationals?

In the current job-market, with more vacancies than candidates, all firms have to be adept at selling themselves. This is where we can help. There is not yet a Chambers Directory of US firms, but we have researched their practices both in the US and Europe. We make this research available to our candidates.

David Woolfson

CHAMBERS
PROFESSIONAL RECRUITMENT

Chambers Professional Recruitment, Saville House, 23 Long Lane, London EC1A 9HL Tel: 0171 606 8844 Fax: 0171 600 1793


ALAN WELLER

Uncertain future: for months Habib Tejan, and his two-year-old son Habib, have been waiting for Bridget Seisay to be released from a Belgian jail

No bail for this boy's mother

The plight of an EU citizen trapped in a Belgian jail highlights the need for a Eurobail system, writes Stephen Jakobi

One Saturday in November last year, Bridget Seisay, a 30-year-old cashier from South London, set out for a weekend break as guest of an ambassador in Bonn, while Habib Tejan, her partner, stayed behind in their Southwark home to mind their two-year-old son. Ms Seisay has yet to return because she is imprisoned in Brussels.

Her family has been plunged into crisis: the child has been referred for specialist assessment after exhibiting signs of extreme disturbance at nursery school and Tejan has lost his job. Ms Seisay's case points to the need for a Eurobail system so that "foreign" EU citizens are not automatically remanded in custody while awaiting trial. If Ms Seisay had been Belgian, she would have been home within 24 hours.

The case against her is bizarre. She had bought an air ticket to Germany but travelled home to London by Eurostar with a young woman she had met while staying at the embassy. At the Eurostar entrance in Brussels, the immigration authorities stopped her companion for travelling on a false British passport and since the two women were travelling together, arrested Ms Seisay. Her cousin, Umaru Wurie, the Sierra Leone Ambassador to Germany, had bought her a Eurostar ticket as a grand gesture so that the two women could travel together.

Perhaps scepticism was initially justified, but when the Ambassador wrote to confirm Ms Seisay's story, that should have been the end of it. Mr Wurie claims that if he had been a white ambassador, she would have been released. The other woman was released and given asylum in Belgium.

As things developed, the prosecution and more than one examining magistrate used the letter as evidence to suggest she was somehow involved in a prostitution racket and that Ms Seisay was his willing accomplice. She was charged with trafficking in human beings and will hear her fate next week.

A workable Eurobail system has been devised and is attracting growing support. The examining magistrate, or his equivalent, would determine whether the offence was "bailable" in the defendant's country and, if so, send the prisoner back to his or her land after registering his court's interest with the justice department of the accused's native country. It would then be the responsibility of the accused's native law enforcement officials to ensure that the accused was delivered to the trying jurisdiction on reasonable notice that he was required for any judicial purpose.

The powers to vary conditions or rescind bail would, between release for bail purposes and a recall requirement, be vested in the accused's native courts. Those concerned about costs of transfer should be reminded that the annual direct cost of keeping someone in custody is at least £20,000 and if the charges concern the breadwinner, there are also family support costs.

Eurobail and other problems of transnational defence have achieved centre-stage over the past few weeks, largely because of concerns over fraud on the Community. The Corpus Juris project, a proposal for the creation of a new crime of "fraud on the Community" and the creation of a European public prosecutors' office to prosecute it, posed civil liberty problems because most of the accused were likely to be facing trial in a foreign country.

A House of Lords committee considering the feasibility of Corpus Juris has taken oral evidence on these problems and is due to issue its report next month. A European Parliament conference on the theme "Liberty, Security and Justice", held last month, achieved broad support for the idea in one of its workshops.

It is now likely that when the heads of government convene in Tampere, Finland, in October to consider the question of securing justice for the citizens of the EU, one of the more important measures before the Council of Ministers will be a Eurobail proposal.

● *The author is director of Fair Trials Abroad.*

Why magistrates are a mixed bunch

Being a JP is no longer elitist, says Paula Davies

The public image of the JP is still that of the middle-aged, middle-class do-gooder. The recent advertising drive by the Lord Chancellor, Lord Irvine of Lairg, to attract a broader cross-section of people into the magistracy echoes a similar campaign in 1985. Has nothing changed?

I applied to be a JP in the mid-Seventies and was astounded when appointed. Not only was I a journalist but, according to friends, far too direct. I had visions of sitting among the behatted ladies or blimpish colonels who had nothing better to do. "I have absolutely no desire to sit in judgment," I told the friend who had urged me to apply. So who are the 30,000 men and women who decide 90 per cent of the criminal cases in England and Wales each year? We are a mixed bag of people including factory and office workers, bus and taxi drivers and self-employed business people. I applied to join the Adult Court but was told to apply to the Juvenile — now Youth — section because there was a shortage of such justices. I was asked why, given that I was young and had children, I had not applied to the juvenile court. My reply was that because I had children, I might be unable to see the wood for the trees and might be biased against the little horrors. The end, I thought, of my application. But I was wrong.

The Lord Chancellor's advisory committees, which sift the applications, look at aspects such as age, sex and occupation to achieve a mix on the bench. Lord Irvine caused something of a stir when he arrived in office and said he wanted more Labour-voting JPs. Instead, he insists he wants a broader mix of backgrounds.

Magistrates were always asked their political affiliations, although one does not have to answer. The main difficulty today is persuading employers to give people time off for this unpaid job. I was fortunate in that my newspaper editor said: "Carry on. Nobody ever learnt anything sitting on their backside in a newspaper office."

So what does it take to be a magistrate? Here I quote from a remarkable man who was one of the best Chief Metropolitan Magistrates, the late Sir David Hopkin. "Patience is a prime requirement," he once told me. "You have to sit and listen. Then you have to have the ability to realise what facts are important and be able to sift them. And you have to be able to recognise and control your own prejudices. When it comes to sentencing, humanity is vital but you have to match that with the public interest. It's no good whacking someone for a large fine when he's on supplementary benefit."

Today more stipendiaries like Sir David are being used in the courts to speed up justice. Yet he was a lawyer who believed strongly in the lay justice system. "Lay people," he said, "bring their own knowledge and experience to the courts and, by being included in the judicial process, they understand how it works."

There are fewer complaints against the decisions of JPs than against those in the superior courts. Yes, we do get appealed against but I always remember another piece of advice — "Be robust, they can always appeal." Perhaps that should be added to the qualities necessary for a magistrate which, for me, are a just mind, a fair outlook, understanding and imagination.

● *Information hotline on becoming a JP: 0845-606 1666*


Bainbridge: I like the crime

PART OF THE COMMUNITY

OLGA BAINBRIDGE, 54, is a retired nurse and sits as a JP at Sedgfield, Co. Durham. She decided to try for the bench when her children were teenagers: "I wanted to feel more a part of the community." Mrs Bainbridge had been interested in the judiciary since visiting a court as part of a group of student nurses. After discussing it with a JP friend of her husband's, she sat in on a few more courts and decided to apply. The interview, with a large committee, was daunting: "They asked me how I'd regard sheep rustling, which was a bit difficult being a town person. I said that in a rural area I thought the penalties would have to be quite strict."

That was ten years ago. Now she is deputy chairman of the family panel. "I like the crime but I love the family work, although there's a lot of trauma, particularly in care cases. And it's no different from when as a nurse I'd care for a terminally ill child. You get upset but you put it behind you."

She would like to see more blue-collar JPs. "We need more ordinary working men and women as well as disabled — the Lord Chancellor has appointed six blind JPs and that is excellent."

GARFIELD ROBBINS

Project Finance - US Firm
Employment
Corporate Partner - US Firm
Banking/Project Finance
Corporate
Professional Indemnity
Senior Telecoms - In-House
Corporate - Management Role

Visit our web site for more positions www.garfieldrobbins.co.uk

PARTNERS & IN-HOUSE COUNSEL

Senior Counsel — **New York Rates**
This is an excellent opportunity to join a leading and highly profitable practice. Ideally you will have strong projects or PFI experience and currently be a salaried partner (or senior assistant) at either a large or a medium sized (i.e. non magic circle) UK firm. You will have a short lead into full partnership and within five years could be earning in excess of £½million. You *will need to have a following of over £300,000 to be considered for this position but the sky is the limit when it comes to* long term prospects. Ref: T.04478.P

5 to 7 Years PQE — **to £120,000**
Top fifteen City law firm seeks a senior assistant to join its stand-alone employment team to advise on a broad range of contentious and non-contentious matters for high profile clients. This role presents an outstanding opportunity in terms of partnership prospects. You will work with highly regarded individuals within this practice area and will be on fast track to partnership. A real chance to push forward your career. Ref: T.30830.R

Partner — **£300,000**
The long established office of this premier US firm is seeking to consolidate its renowned corporate department with the appointment of another corporate partner, preferably from a top twenty UK firm with some form of following or evidence of client winning ability. You will handle a diverse range of work: a proportion of referral work from the firm's US and European offices including cross border acquisitions with a UK element or UK acquisitions for overseas entities. This is a strong firm with clear expansion plans offering an excellent environment. Ref: T.30345.K

Partner — **to £250,000**
An excellent opportunity has arisen in one of the City's leading International practices to join a banking/project finance team. The team, in line with the firm, is developing from strength to strength and the successful applicant will be directly involved in the further development of the department/firm. An excellent client base which is spread across a broad spectrum of industries. Following expected. Ref: T.03827.L

6 Years+ PQE — **to £130,000**
Leading international City law firm has an opportunity for senior lawyers looking for partnership. You will currently be at a middle ranking firm or other large international practice looking for a better quality of work or a broader range of first rate clients. Lack of public company work is not an issue provided you can demonstrate good quality private M&A and transactional experience. Corporate is a key area of this practice and this is an excellent opportunity for partnership in a leading firm. Ref: T.09506.N

Partner — **to £280,000**
Major City player now seeks an exceptional candidate with a significant and good quality following to join as a partner. The firm is one of the big hitting names in the professional indemnity field and ideally you will have experience of accountants and financial intermediary negligence. This is a first rate opportunity. Ref: T.05090.H

3 to 4 Years PQE — **to £50,000**
Major telecommunications company seeks to appoint a number of senior corporate and regulatory lawyers to work in each of its London, Madrid, Paris, Amsterdam and Brussels offices due to rapid European growth. Responsibilities will include managing corporate and regulatory affairs and parent company relations as well as contributing corporate, commercial and regulatory input to company-wide work on cross-functional projects. Candidates should have experience in the UK or the relevant jurisdiction, some of which should include interconnect issues and ideally have been gained in-house. A full benefit package shall apply. Ref: Telco.G

2 to 4 Years PQE — **Competitive + Excellent Benefits**
World leading finance provider is currently expanding one of its legal departments. Concentrating on the Company's European operations, candidates will have gained excellent corporate experience to include company acquisitions and flotations and should be qualified in at least one common law jurisdiction and be fluent in two or more languages. Candidates will be responsible for providing strategic advice on investment business in Europe and will be expected to develop an in-depth knowledge of legal systems in order to advise the business people. Responsibility will also include the appointing and managing of external counsel in relevant jurisdictions. Ref: T.30837.E

For more information in complete confidence please contact Penny Stevenson or Helen Bryant (for private practice) Julian Stone (for In-House) on 0171 417 1400 or write to them (all qualified lawyers) at the London office of GARFIELD ROBBINS, 5 WORMWOOD STREET, LONDON EC2M 1RQ. Call Evenings/Weekends 0171 624 2924 Confidential Fax 0171 417 1444. Email:pennys@garfieldrobbins.co.uk


INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

INDUSTRY IN THE SOUTH EAST

ANTI-COUNTERFEIT — **C.£70,000 + BENS**
Global software company seeks a lawyer with a minimum of 8 years' experience to manage its European anti-counterfeiting activities. Based in Paris and working with an anti-piracy team across Europe, this role will require stamina, focus and the ability to manage large scale investigations and litigation. Some prosecution experience essential. Long-terms rewards are exceptional. (Ref. 26421)

INSURANCE/SHIPPING LIT — **TO £32,000 + BENS**
Leading mutual manager requires a lawyer with 6-18 months experience to join its Far East syndicate to deal with claims and a range of commercial issues. Reporting directly into senior management, this is a front line role involving you in all aspects of the business. Direct experience of the shipping/insurance industry is preferred. An excellent first in-house move (Ref. 25560)

SENIOR CORPORATE COUNSEL — **C.£70,000**
Insurance company with impressive product portfolio seeks a 6-8 year qualified lawyer (ideally with some insurance experience) to join its London based HQ. You will enjoy a broad diet of commercial work from joint ventures to IT outsourcing contracts. This is a senior role for a "self-starter" able to run their own transactions. You will be rewarded with autonomy and a highly attractive remuneration package. (Ref 26554)

LEGAL MARKETING — **C£42,000**
Top American law firm, as part of its global marketing strategy requires a dynamic lawyer to co-ordinate its UK marketing function. Based in London, you will be involved in all aspects of operational marketing. You will be a lawyer with creative flair and some experience of legal marketing who is looking for the opportunity to re-focus your career whilst still using your legal qualification. (Ref 26427)

COMPANY/COMMERCIAL — **C.£40,000**
International educational publisher seeks a commercial lawyer with 3-4 years' experience. Based in modern, purpose built offices in Harlow, your work will encompass a genuine mix of company and commercial matters. A working knowledge of IP is preferred and good drafting skills are essential. An excellent first in-house move for a confident and personable lawyer. (Ref 24845)

IP/COMMERCIAL — **£30-50,000 (PRO RATA)**
Independent TV production company based west of London is looking to appoint its first legal advisor (at least 2 years' qualified) to assist the Commercial Director with a variety of commercial agreements. Specific IP experience is a must as you will be responsible for providing copyright advice and managing an extensive global trademark portfolio. (Ref. 25626)

CO SECRETARIAL/LEGAL — **TO £45,000 + BENS**
Leading London based fund manager seeks additional lawyer for combined legal and company secretarial role. The position will encompass responsibility for managing a junior lawyer and will initially involve a mix of administrative and legal contracts work. An excellent opportunity for an ambitious 1-3 year qualified lawyer or junior company secretary. (Ref. 26099)

COMMERCIAL/IT — **TO £50,000 + BENS**
Cutting edge multi-national seeks bright, commercially astute lawyer to join its established legal team. This is an outstanding opportunity for a young lawyer who is seeking a broad commercial contracts/IT role within a dynamic company, an attractive salary and benefits package and the possibility of working flexible hours. Proven drafting skills are a must. (Ref. 26457)

www.zarakgroup.com

For information on permanent positions, please contact Elizabeth Williams or Debbie Offenbach on 0171 523 1250 (0171 924 4872 evenings/weekends). Fax 0171 523 3823. E-mail elizabeth.williams@zarakgroup.com
Alternatively please write to ZMB Industry, 37 Sun Street, London EC2M 2PL.


ZMB INDUSTRY THE ZARAK GROUP

London Manchester Leeds Sydney New York Toronto Vancouver Calgary

DE
DEFENCE ESTATES
Delivering Estate Solutions to Defence Needs

THE PROVISION OF PROPERTY RELATED LEGAL SERVICES FOR DEFENCE ESTATES, AN AGENCY OF THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

The Ministry of Defence is one of the largest landowners in the country. A range of real property related legal services is required, to carry out conveyancing and provide legal advice in England and Wales. These services will cease to be available in-house as a result of the planned closure of Government Property Lawyers Agency and will need to be bought in.

Legal services will be required in the following areas of work:-

a. All types of transactions involving the acquisition and disposal of land or interests in land and permissions to occupy land.

b. The provision of legal advice on questions related to land ownership, occupation and associated rights and interests, to include landlord and tenant, planning and environmental legislation.

All bidders must demonstrate a thorough knowledge and experience of the following:
Commercial conveyancing, planning law and practice, agricultural law, nature conservation legislation, public access arrangements, property aspects of partnerships and joint ventures (including collateral warranties) clawback and overage arrangements, options and conditional contracts. Experience on advising and representing Crown bodies in these of law is desirable and will be preferred.

Law practices interested in bidding for this work should in the first instance apply in writing to Mrs D Dakin, Commercial Branch, Defence Estates HQ, Blakemore Drive, Sutton Coldfield, B75 7RL by 23 April 1999 for a pre qualification questionnaire, which will set out the procedures for bidding and the selection of suitable firms. It is currently envisaged that the Ministry is likely to appoint between 4 and 8 practices to service this requirement.

It is expected that contentious work (eg the conduct of litigation or arbitration) relating to land property will continue to be referred to and dealt with by the Treasury Solicitor's Department.

COMMERCIAL PROPERTY
NICHE CITY FIRM
TWO POSITIONS

EJ • LEGAL
STRATEGIC RECRUITMENT ADVISERS

Vibrant, Young, Focused, Cutting Edge – our client is. Are you?

Two career opportunities have arisen in one of the City's most progressive and cohesive niche firms, whose Property Department acts for an exceptional range of clients including national developers, private and public investors and major procurers of property services in the public sector.

The property team seeks:

- A **Senior Associate** with in excess of 5 years' PQE, seeking early or immediate partnership (a part following as evidence of practice development skills is sought)
- A **2-4 years' qualified assistant** with development/investment property expertise. Your experience may have been gained in another London firm or in a substantial provincial practice.

Personal responsibility, a competitive City salary and the chance to shape your career in a flexible, collegiate firm mark out these roles.

TO DISCUSS EITHER OF THE ABOVE POSITIONS PLEASE CONTACT SARAH KING OR SIMON JANION ON 0171 404 6669. ALTERNATIVELY SEND YOUR CV TO US AT EJ LEGAL, 44-45 CHANCERY LANE, LONDON WC2A 1JB [FAX 0171 404 8817; EMAIL info@ejrec.com]

Partners & Teams

c. £999,999

And now for the important stuff.

Project Finance, Structured Finance, M&A, Corporate Finance

Career-defining decisions should be made on the consideration of a variety of factors, not a single incentive. Unquestionably a successful global law firm, our Client is looking for partners who will become an integrated part of its business because they are inspired by its clientele and culture, rather than the cachet of a certain salary figure. Of course you will be paid what you are worth and the firm's top performers command seven figure incomes.

Established in London for over 20 years, the firm has close to 40 lawyers providing outstanding service and achieving ground-breaking results for existing clients across Europe. Over 70% of London's business is locally generated. The remainder emanates from the firm's prestigious and internationally active US clientele. The London-based lawyers cover key corporate and finance practice areas and they have created a dynamic yet collegiate working environment where achievements are recognised and rewarded.

For partners specialising in the above areas, this is an opportunity to be part of a firm wholly committed to significant further growth in London and the consolidation of its position as one of the elite global players. Call Joe Macrae or Yvonne Smyth for an initial, completely confidential discussion on 0171-523 3838 (0171-359 5212 evenings/weekends) or write to them at ZMB, 37 Sun Street, London EC2M 2PL. Alternatively e-mail: joe.macrae@zarakgroup.com



PRE-EMINENT NEW YORK FIRM–LONDON

Property Lawyers and Property Finance Lawyers

1-3 Years' PQE and 4-6 Years' PQE

To £60,000 + bonus — *To £95,000 + bonus*

Our Client, one of the most prestigious New York law firms, has a significant presence in London, with partners and assistants from top 10 City firms. To continue its growth and respond to the demands of its international clients, the firm now wants to expand its premier international property practice, in London.

Its US property and property finance clients include major investment banks and other recognised institutional property, equity and debt investors, commercial banks and international insurance corporations. Many of these clients are already involved in transactions in the United Kingdom and other European countries and these are set to increase.

Property lawyers will preferably come from a leading UK practice and will work on complex, stimulating property transactions in a front-line and business-driven role.

Property finance lawyers will immediately be involved in leading edge structured/securitised financings.

Premium City salaries, well above those offered by the top City firms, are on offer. As importantly, your career prospects will be exceptional in this collegiate, merit-based environment.

A number of the firm's US partners will be in London from 15th April to conduct interviews in conjunction with the London partners.

For further information, in complete confidence, please contact **Stephen Rodney** or **Sarah David** on **0171 405 6082** (0411 308 515 eve/wkends), or write to them at **QD Legal**.

Email davidsc@qdgroup.co.uk

QD Legal
37-41 Bedford Row
London
WC1R 4JH

Tel: 0171 405 6062
Confidential fax: 0171 831 6394
Web: www.qdgroup.com

London	Hong Kong
Birmingham	Singapore
Bristol	New York
Leeds	Washington DC
Manchester	Toronto
Paris	Vancouver
Frankfurt	Sydney
Köln	Melbourne
Rotterdam	Johannesburg

INVESTOR IN PEOPLE





Schering-Plough, U.S.

Schering-Plough is a U.S.-based company that is active in the pharmaceutical industry worldwide and has established itself as a leader in biotechnology, allergy and anticancer treatment.

A new corporate lawyer familiar with US and European legal systems shall compliment the U.S. headquarters' European legal office in Lucerne, Switzerland managed by the Head of European Legal Operations. The

General Lawyer

is responsible for working on all legal activities in Europe and also assists the Head of European Legal Operations. He/She solves legal issues relevant to company needs.

The ideal candidate has a law degree and approx. 5 years working experience, with some pharmaceutical or related background, and is experienced in working in a European environment. Strong interpersonal skills and the ability to interact with business managers as well as 'self-starter' and 'hands-on' qualities are essential for this challenging and high-potential position.

To apply please send your CV together with details of your current remuneration to TASA Worldwide AG, Postfach, CH-8034 Zürich or e-mail to: zurich.office@tasa-ww.com

US Firms In London

Many of our competitors claim it, but Taylor Root can genuinely say that we act for the vast majority of the US law firms in London that recruit UK lawyers. We have dedicated substantial resources into recruiting in this exciting and expanding area and can boast a significant list of successes at all levels of seniority.

FREE SURVEY ON
'THE TRUTH BEHIND UK LAWYERS WORKING IN US LAW FIRMS'

This has been our most recent initiative and it has generated widespread interest. For your free copy please contact Gill Jones on 0171 415 2828 or Email: gilljones@taylor-root.co.uk

Partners - Numerous roles exist for partners in the areas of projects, capital markets, corporate and taxation. An entrepreneurial approach is essential in all cases. Please call Nick Root in confidence on 0171 415 2828.

Corporate - New York firm with international reputation seeks an additional lawyer with cross-border transactional experience to join its expanding team. High quality and international work. US rates. **3 years +**

Commercial Property - Exciting opportunity to join multi-disciplinary practice staffed in London by English lawyers. Interesting and broad range of challenging work. Genuine long term prospects. **2-4 years**

Energy - International law firm with a particular expertise in oil and gas seeks ambitious lawyer to join its expanding team. Work is of the highest quality and very international. Premium rates of pay. **3 years +**

Litigation - Established London office of this leading US firm seeks additional litigator. The work is varied, international and cutting-edge. Early responsibility encouraged. City background preferred. **1-4 years**

Employment - Expanding and high profile group of this established London office seeks a junior lawyer. The work is varied including both non-contentious and contentious matters for US and UK clients. **1-2 years**

Banking Information - Unusual opportunity for a City trained finance lawyer to work as an information officer with one of the leading US banking practices. Part time will be considered. US rates. **3 years +**

Tax - Commercially astute lawyer with excellent technical skills sought by hard hitting and ambitious New York firm. Excellent international client base and a stimulating range of work on offer. **3 years +**

Securitisation - Widely regarded as a global leader, this New York practice seeks a high calibre lawyer to advise on innovative financial structures. Potential for New York secondment. US rates. **2-5 years**

IT - Non Contentious - This dynamic US firm with a leading reputation in its field seeks a confident assistant. Cutting edge work on offer at this commercial and entrepreneurial firm. **2-5 years**

For an informed and confidential discussion please call Gill Jones on 0171 415 2828 (Evenings: 0171 328 3694) or write to Taylor Root, 179 Queen Victoria Street, London EC4V 4JA. Email: gilljones@taylor-root.co.uk

TAYLOR • ROOT
GLOBAL LEGAL RECRUITMENT
THE SR GROUP • LONDON • HONG KONG • SYDNEY

COVINGTON & BURLING

The Brussels office of Covington & Burling, a Washington, D.C. based law firm with additional offices in London, Brussels and San Francisco, seeks two lawyers with 3 to 5 years' experience, preferably in private practice, who are interested in a thriving EU practice. One opening is for a lawyer to work on EU regulation of internet, new media and electronic commerce issues. The second opening is in the area of international trade, with an emphasis on WTO matters.

BRUSSELS OFFICE OPENINGS

Candidates must have excellent academic credentials, with strong analytic ability and English language speaking and writing skills. Posting of the lawyers will be to the firm's Brussels office on a full-time basis.

To apply please send your CV and an example of your recent written work to **Human Resources**, Covington & Burling, Leconfield House, Curzon Street, London, W1Y 8AS.

BIRCHAM & CO.
SOLICITORS

We provide US Law Firms with comprehensive Property, Employment and Litigation Services.

Please contact:
John Stephenson or George Josselyn
1 Dean Farrar Street, Westminster, London SW1H 0DY.
Telephone: 0171 222 8044 Fax: 0171 222 3480

"WOOLF MADE SIMPLE"
IT IS NOT TOO LATE

On 23rd and 24th April David Barnard and members of his Chambers at 33 Bedford Row are running courses in London which will teach you all you need to know in one day about the new civil procedure rules.

23rd April - The Waldorf Meridian, Aldwych

24th April - Royal National Hotel, Russell Square

See chapters from the lecturers' book at www.bedfordrow33.demon.co.uk

Telephone Michael Liebermann on 0171 242 6476 to reserve a place.

THAMES VALLEY Commercial/ company

Progressive Legal 500 firm requires an energetic solicitor with at least three years PQE to help serve IT client base in this thriving hi-tech area. Apply with CV to Dennis Eyrley, Clifton Ingram, 22-24 Broad Street, Wokingham, RG40 1BA

TRY A CAREER THAT ISN'T LEGAL

Progressive company looking to expand, following highly successful first seven years of trading, seeks graduates, aged 24-30, or those of sound professional background to be trained to the highest standard with aim of full profit participation within 2-3 years. Call: JIM HARRIES 0171 576 7444

ESSEX COURT

leading

www.4essexcourt.law.co.uk/recruitment/

AMBITIOUS Lawyer qualified to practice Belorussian law with fluent Russian and Belorussian linguistic skills required by Pitmans Solicitors, Reading, Berks. Approx £18,000 p.a. For initial discussion please call Irene Dalles on 0118 9580224

EMPLOYMENT - Devon. 0-2 yr pqe solicitor to assist partner in busy dept of a leading firm contentious and non contentious. Macdonald & Company (Agy) (01747) 828337. Fax (01747) 828047.

RESIDENTIAL Conveyancing Solicitor available for work immediately in London until the end of June. Phone 0181-2036227.

COMMERCIAL Property Lawyer. We are looking for an ambitious 5-10 year qualified (approx) lawyer looking to find personal freedom in a quality legal environment. He/she will be a bit different, have something special and will ideally be from a top City firm looking for a better lifestyle whilst maintaining standards. The firm has a Wills/Probate/Trusts with special interest in investment property, leisure property and e-commerce. Investment property experience essential. Call on Maitland Kaltons 0171 278 1817. www.kaltons.co.uk Kaltons Solicitors.

IT/TELECOMS - Hunts. Niche ex-City practice with international client base seeks 0-6 yr pqe solicitor for Co-Co and commercial property. Macdonald & Company (Agy) (01747) 828337. Fax (01747) 828047.

PROOF-READER £17,18K for top City law firm. 11am - 7pm. Previous experience essential. Call Liz on 0171 419 5850

TAX Specialist. Leading South Coast firm seeks solicitor for dedicated private client office. Macdonald & Company (Agy) (01747) 828337. Fax (01747) 828047.

London flies the Stars and Stripes

US firms see the capital as a way into Europe, says Edward Fennell

The number of American law firms in London has grown hugely in the past five years. Spurred on by the importance of London as a financial centre, many of the firms over here since the Seventies have blossomed. At the same time, more American lawyers have arrived in town to carve out territory for themselves.

Major firms such as Weil Gotshal & Manges have been created virtually overnight through a judicious mix of core American partners and big-name British lawyers hired at high salaries from blue-chip firms.

Put it together and you have a multilayered picture of firms big and small, some thoroughly Anglophile, others distinctly expat. The lesson is that not all US law firms are alike.

Take Sidley & Austin, a firm with its roots in the Midwest but a longstanding foothold in London. In the Eighties it had a handful of lawyers tucked up in a cosy suite of offices.

The picture now is very different: it has 63 lawyers and occupies level after level of high-tech office space overlooking the Stock Exchange. But 60 of those 63 lawyers are UK-qualified, most have come from the leading English firms and the ambience of the office is British. (That contrasts, for example, with Freshfields's complement of more than 20 American lawyers in its London office.)

Yet according to Sidley & Austin's Mark Pinder, who leads the corporate group, the firm is definitely a part of the American legal community. Confusing? It is — but only if you ignore the globalisation taking place in legal services. Firms such as Sidley & Austin, White & Case, Jones Day, and Coudert Brothers reflect the boom in the new breed of international law firm. The UK has its own players, such as Clifford Chance, Freshfields, Linklaters and Allen & Overy.

London has become the pivotal centre outside New York for banking, corporate finance and the crucial telecommunications sector. To back up any claims to be international, US law firms must have a prominent London office. There are said to be more than 100 American law firms in the capital. Take out those that are present for letterhead purposes only and that means about 40 functioning offices and maybe a score with big numbers of lawyers. Those 20 or so represent a roll call of the most important US firms, from Wall Street and the other leading financial and business centres. Firms such as Sullivan & Cromwell, Skadden Arps, Shearman & Sterling, O'Melveney & Myers, Mayer Brown & Platt, Jones Day and White & Case are high-powered firms with successful international operations.

Many will claim to be world leaders in specific fields. Sullivan & Cromwell, for example, is probably one of the top three mergers and acquisitions practitioners in the world and has recently been counsel to BP in its takeover of Amoco, Vodaphone in the deal with AirTouch and Olivetti in the link-up with Telecom Italia.

But though many US firms are busy "going native", Sullivan & Cromwell is Stars and Stripes to the core. Often compared to Slaughter & May, the firm is old-school Wall Street, bringing its American expertise and approach to a grateful list of blue-chip clients.

Financial services largely remains the *raison d'être*, but this is being increasingly matched by the use of London as a gateway to Europe.

Many details, however, will be shaped by the firm's American client base. More than 50 per cent of Coudert Brothers' work is corporate, and much of it, says Jones Day's Keith Featherstone, for European subsidiaries of the firm's traditional manufacturing client base in Cleveland.

John Bellhouse, of White & Case, predicts "substantial growth" over the next five years. In a business world with few frontiers, the competition has just become much stiffer.

PHOTOGRAPHS: TONY STONE



US partners want those who have trained with a Top 20 firm and make big investments in their London businesses

FIRMS LEADING THE AMERICAN WAY

The leading American law firms in London include Akin, Gump, Strauss, Hauer & Feld; Cravath, Swaine & Moore; Coudert Brothers; Jones Day, Reavis & Pogue; Latham & Watkins; LeBoeuf, Lamb, Greene & MacRae; Milbank, Tweed, Hadley & McCloy; O'Melveny & Myers LLP; Rogers & Wells; Shearman & Sterling; Sidley & Austin; Sullivan & Cromwell; Weil, Gotshal & Manges; White & Case



There are said to be more than 100 American law firms in the capital

Risk-takers win high salaries, but only top performers need apply

A big salary is proving to be one of the best weapons in the armoury of American firms as they build their presences in London. As the ZMB advert today for an unnamed client illustrates, seven-figure salaries are seen as realistic prospects for senior partners who can make good contributions to the development of the business.

Even at junior levels, lawyers expect to earn more with US firms. Three-year qualified solicitors are said to earn £60,000-plus with many firms, *Edward Fennell writes.*

But these generous packages do not come without strings. To qualify for the million-plus reward, you will be expected either to bring with you business worth between £3 to £5 million a year or to build up to that very quickly.

The US partners are prepared to make big investments in their budding London businesses and, initially, to carry new recruits. The fairly high casualty rate in some firms reflects the fact that the high expectations on both sides cannot always be realised.

None of this detracts from the importance of the US firms as a source of career opportunity for solicitors at all stages in their careers. A key development in the past year has been the interest of the US firms in taking on trainees. Jones Day, for example, has just had its first trainee qualify and is licensed to take five a year. White & Case has ten trainees and Sidley & Austin 12.

The leading American firms say that they can offer high-quality work in a smaller environment, with the opportunity of greater direct involvement than in their UK equivalents. Inevitably, however, the bulk of recruitment is at assistant or, as the Americans put it, associate level. Though some appointments are made through personal contacts or by people writing in with CVs (White & Case receives more than a dozen unsolicited applications every week), the US firms are now sufficiently part of the mainstream to make use of the usual big-name agencies such as Quarry Dougall, Lipson Lloyd Jones and Kelly Field. Senior partners such as Philip Burroughs at Coudert Brothers have spent much time with the agencies briefing them on the types of recruit they want.

But having a good legal brain is not enough. In most cases the Americans want people who have trained with a Top 20 firm or a leading niche practice and who have a higher than average level of self-confidence. As Martin Rowley, a Jones Day associate, puts it: "Because our teams are small, you have to take on more responsibility and have greater client contact than in an equivalent large UK firm. You need to have the self-assurance to handle that but also to be willing to ask when you don't know something."

The point on which every US firm agrees is that they seek the adventurous risk-taker who can fit into a wider social group than is usually represented by top London firms.

There are some risks attached to joining an American firm. So if you appear to be on track to a partnership in a British firm should you make the move to a US outfit ? There may be attractions in doing a wider range of international work and the financial incentives may be enticing. Certainly, the management of the US firms say that they recruit every associate with a view to their becoming partners.

Selection methods in US firms for partnership are thorough and will involve scrutiny by American partners. In these early days they may err on the side of caution, especially given the number of associates they have recruited.

There is a danger that some British lawyers may not make the grade and then feel obliged to resume the partnership-hunt at a lower level elsewhere.

The experience of working for a US firm may look good on a CV but, as everyone points out, there is a price to pay for giving one's allegiance to the Stars and Stripes.

US LAW FIRMS

Hughes-Castell offers the definitive service to solicitors/attorneys interested in joining US firms in London or the US.
For general enquiries please contact Peter Gosden or Scott Gibson.

DEBT RESTRUCTURING PARTNER £700,000
This US firm's London office focuses on Project Finance, M&A and Capital Markets work. The US and UK Capital Markets team undertakes both equity and debt financings and is extremely well regarded for its "high yield" debt practice. A Restructuring specialist would ideally complement, and work closely with, both the Project Finance and Capital Markets teams. Ref: 9453. Contact: Peter Gosden.

CORPORATE FINANCE £NY Rates
This top US firm has a "recession proof" client base and a truly unique and long term approach to clients. They now seek either a junior corporate lawyer (4-6 PQE), to whom they offer excellent medium term prospects, or a partner (min 8 years PQE). No following is required as an existing quality caseload of yellow and blue book work requires immediate attention. Ref: 9942. Contact: Scott Gibson.

BANKING PARTNER Minimum £200,000
The established London office of this top 10 US firm is making a first time appointment of a UK banking partner. Although a following is not required, as you will be fed good "blue chip" leads from one of the strongest corporate/capital markets groups in London and NY, an ability to market and grow a department is essential. Ref: 9425. Contact: Peter Gosden.

EMPLOYMENT PARTNER £95-£130,000
This specialist Hi-tech US firm has a friendly, team orientated and "extrovert" atmosphere. They are now seeking to make a first time appointment of an employment partner with 5-9 PQE to handle all aspects of employment law for hi-tech US and EU clients. They promise the highest quality work, support to grow a team and the best renumeration in London. Ref: 9941. Contact: Scott Gibson.

UK LAW FIRMS

PROPERTY To £70,000
This is a medium-sized City firm which stands out from the rest by having one of the strongest reputations in the property field but also a young and dynamic culture. The team spirited department of c50 seeks 2 further lawyers (2-6 years' PQE) to handle all aspects of property investment and dealing, development projects, management, landlord and tenant etc. Ref: 8883. Contact: Pandora Guthrie.

IT (NON-CONTENTIOUS) To £55,000
The IT and Internet Group of this City firm much admired for its IT practice has eight specialists and needs two more entrepreneurial lawyers (1-4 years' PQE) who would enjoy the young, fun and relaxed environment. Burgeoning work includes e-commerce, outsourcing, data-protection internet and digital mixed media for a client base that will amaze you. Ref: 6526. Contact: Pandora Guthrie.

PATENTS To £60,000
This is a wonderful opportunity to join the IP department of this City firm, widely renowned as one of the leading IP groups in Europe. You will have 2-4 years' PQE in a mix of contentious and non-contentious patents work, have a science background and will thrive in a supportive team acting for highest-profile clients. Ref: 9379. Contact: Pandora Guthrie.

COMMERCIAL/BANKING LITIGATION – NQ-1 £Excellent
Have you completed at least one litigation seat during your training and are interested in joining a top 15 firm which is one of the premier UK banking practices? You will assist on a portfolio of large commercial debt recovery work and have the ability to quickly win the confidence of clients and work well in a team. Outstanding package. Ref: 9418. Contact: Jane Glassberg.

EMPLOYMENT – PARTNER DESIGNATE 3-8 Years' PQE
The circa 10 lawyer employment department is a core practice group in this well known, popular Holborn firm. They have succeeded in doubling their business in the last three years and now seek an additional assistant who will have a key role in further developing the team. Ref: 9041. Contact: Jane Glassberg.

SUMMER '99 QUALIFIERS £33,000-£50,000
If you are unsure of your position on qualifying or merely in need of straightforward and informed career advice, please feel free to give us a call. We have new NQ instructions in the areas of – IT/telecoms, IP/media, tax, pensions, private client, projects, PFI, construction, property, employment, EC Competition, banking, corporate, commercial and litigation. Ref: 1999. Contact: Jane Glassberg.

CORPORATE INSOLVENCY To £55K
Top 10 City and International firm with a client centred approach has a vacancy for a 1-3 year's qualified non-contentious insolvency solicitor. You will be advising on all aspects of corporate insolvency, restructuring and refinancing. Clients are top notch, including company directors, administrators, receivers, liquidators and creditors. Ref: 9393. Contact: Abie Martin.

EC/COMPETITION £Excellent
If you're worth your salt you'll know who this firm is . . . City firm with world renowned WTO team. The team has a rare vacancy for a 2-4 years' qualified fluent French and English speaker with solid experience of EC/Competition including notifications. Role includes advising member states on competition matters such as resolution of disputes and customs law including anti-dumping. Ref: 9376. Contact: Abie Martin.

FINANCIAL SERVICES To £55K
City firm acting for unit trusts, life offices, building societies and other financial institutions needs a 3-5 years' qualified financial services lawyer for its team. You will advise on offshore funds, compliance, derivative contracts and global custody banking. Culture is friendly and informal. Ref: 9264. Contact: Abie Martin.

IN-HOUSE

EMPLOYMENT – TELECOMS CO. London
Global Telecoms Co. have an excellent opportunity for a 3 to 4 years qualified employment lawyer. The position is a mix of contentious and non-contentious work, advising senior management and H.R. Departments both in the UK and across Europe on all employment issues. Knowledge of one or more European languages would be useful. Ref: 7214. Contact: Richard Gawn.

TELECOMS LAWYER London
First time appointment sole charge position with innovative telecoms company (3-5 years' PQE). Broad range of legal issues including negotiating and drafting a variety of agreements in a highly commercial environment – advising senior management. Previous telecoms experience is essential either gained at a law firm or "in-house". Ref: 8057. Contact: Richard Gawn.

IT LAWYER London
Leading International IT company with particular strengths in outsourcing and systems integration services require a further lawyer (3-6 years' PQE) to join their established legal department. The successful applicant will have strong negotiation and drafting skills with a commercial focus. Competitive package. Ref: 8583. Contact: Sloane Poulton.

ENERGY LAWYER 6-8 Years' PQE
Leading energy company with a strong reputation for diversification, growth and a commercial approach are recruiting for an experienced energy lawyer. This challenging role offers a broad range of work in a dynamic professional and commercial environment. The successful applicant will either be with a top City law firm or already "in-house" with an established energy company. Ref: 8920. Contact: Sloane Poulton.

STRUCTURED FINANCE/PFI £ very lucrative
The Structured Finance/PFI group of an entrepreneurial company which competes head to head against the international investment banks is seeking to hire another professional. The existing team consists of former bankers, accountants and lawyers who relish the intellectual stimulation, creativity and commercial involvement that the role brings. A lawyer with strong Structured Finance (including securitisation) experience will enjoy getting to grips with the challenge of devising and implementing complex structures designed to exploit the long term cashflows generated by the company's investments in PFI and other transactions. The position will suit someone 7-11 years' qualified looking for something distinctly different. Ref: 9447. Contact: Paul Eustacias.

STRUCTURED PRODUCTS To £100,000 + Bonus
A leading European Bank seeks a structured products lawyer for its legal team. You should have 5-9 years' PQE, debt capital markets and derivatives experience and will be dealing with a varied workload including bond issues, MTN programmes, repackagings, swaps, options, warrants and other aspects of structured finance. Ref: 9803. Contact: Tanya Aljewicz.

INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT £65,000 + Benefits
The investment management arm of a major bank is seeking a lawyer with 2-4 years' PQE to integrate with its legal team. You will be dealing with all aspects of funds work including investment management, custodian, registrar and other related agreements. Ref: 9239. Contact: Tanya Aljewicz.



Hughes-Castell International Legal Recruitment Consultants

London Office: 87 Chancery Lane, London WC2A 1BD. Tel: 0171 242 0303 Fax: 0171 242 7111
Hong Kong Office: 701 and 702 East Town Building, 41 Lockhart Road, Wanchai, Hong Kong.
New York • Chicago • Boston • Atlanta • San Francisco • Palo Alto • Sydney • Melbourne • Brisbane • Wellington

One Firm Worldwide

Tracing its origins to 1893, Jones Day's reach and practice have developed in response to the globalization of capital, trade, and technology, as well as to the changing needs of the Firm's clients.

As registered foreign lawyers and solicitors, we offer tax-based structured finance, corporate tax planning, securities law, litigation, corporate finance and mergers and acquisitions services in the United Kingdom, the United States and worldwide.

Jones, Day, Reavis & Pogue ranks among the world's largest law firms, with more than 1,200 lawyers resident in 20 locations in major centres of business and finance around the world.



Bucklersbury House
3 Queen Victoria Street
London EC4N 8NA England

Visit us at our website www.jonesday.com

ATLANTA, BRUSSELS, CHICAGO, CLEVELAND, COLUMBUS, DALLAS, FRANKFURT, GENEVA, HONG KONG, IRVINE, LONDON, LOS ANGELES, NEW DELHI (AN ASSOCIATE FIRM), NEW YORK, PARIS, PITTSBURGH, RIYADH, TAIPEI, TOKYO, WASHINGTON

MOTOR RACING: FRENTZEN OFFERS STARK CONTRAST TO HIS TROUBLED TEAM-MATE

Hill forced into back seat

From Kevin Eason in São Paulo

DAMON HILL needs no reminder of the worst days of his motor racing life, yet he must believe that his ghost has returned to haunt him. Becoming world champion in 1996 did not save him from being fired from the Williams team, to be replaced by Heinz-Harald Frentzen. Now Frentzen is his team-mate at Jordan and again it is the German who is stealing Hill's thunder.

Hill has failed to finish the first two races of a season in which he is supposed to have title aspirations, while Frentzen has gone on to impressive podium finishes. Those performances — second place in Australia and third in Brazil on Sunday — have more than repaid the faith of Eddie Jordan in a driver who joined the team only because he, too, was out of his job at Williams.

Frentzen will not criticise Sir Frank Williams, but it is clear that the austere atmosphere of the most successful team of recent times overawed him. Being partnered with the brash and confident Jacques Villeneuve probably did not help instil self-belief into a slightly introverted driver with a wry sense of humour.

However, he is thriving at Jordan. The family atmosphere suits him and Eddie Jordan, the team owner, is prepared to spend time with his driver to encourage him to flourish. The therapy is working.

"He wasn't a bad choice, when you consider he was a Williams reject," Jordan said yesterday. "Since he stepped into the 1999 Jordan, he has been terrific. He hasn't put a foot wrong. People criticised us for taking on Frentzen, but, in hindsight, he was the perfect guy for us.

"We have tried to sign Heinz-Harald three times since he was with us in 1990 in Formula 3000 and I believe we haven't seen the best of him yet."

Which means that Jordan will have to turn his attention to Hill, 38, who has suffered appalling luck, first when he was shunted off the track in Melbourne and then, on Sunday, colliding with the Benetton of Alexander Wurz. It will be of little comfort to Hill that Jordan attaches no blame to his driver for either incident, particularly as Hill confronts the fact that he is lagging behind a team-mate in the points table for the first time in his career since he partnered Alain Prost in 1993.

However, Frentzen believes that Hill will break his run of luck and could get into the points at the next race, the San Marino Grand Prix, at Imola in three weeks' time. "I know things did not work out for me at Williams, but I learnt a lot," he said. "I am comfortable at Jordan and with Damon and he will bounce back. Damon will be very competitive when he gets some luck."

The disparity in fortunes between team-mates is evident all over the grid. While Mika Hakkinen was cruising to victory, David Coulthard was sitting beside his expired McLaren-Mercedes contemplating a start to his world championship campaign that could not have been worse: there have been two races and he has failed to finish both.

Worse still was the frightening moment when his car stalled on the starting grid as he struggled to find first gear and an avalanche of cars swept past him. "It was pretty hairy," he said. "When you have got 20 cars coming at you at that sort of speed, you just hope that they all see you in time. I just sat there waiting for the impact and thank goodness it didn't come."

At Williams, Ralf Schumacher has been in the points twice, while Alex Zanardi, who joined the British team this season as two-times CART champion, has struggled to find speed, consistency and a finish.

Ralf Schumacher's performance in Brazil underlined how open the first two races of the year have been, in stark contrast to last season, when the McLarens and Ferraris were dominating. The Stewart-Fords have the necessary pace and just need to find the reliability for Rubens Barrichello to register his first victory, while the Jordans are clearly capable of tackling the Ferraris and could go on to worry the McLarens.

McLaren remain concerned about the reliability of their cars and will be back to the drawing board in the short gap to Imola, where Coulthard won last year. Hakkinen's victory was threatened briefly by gearbox problems on Sunday and engineers have been told to trace glitches over the next few days.

Norbert Haug, the head of the Mercedes engine supplier, warned: "We are certainly not dominant this year and we are not unbeatable. To win both drivers' and constructors' championships again is going to be a lot tougher."

PAULO WHITAKER

Frentzen unwinds after suffering mechanical trouble on the last lap in Brazil, yet still he finished in third place

INTERLAGOS DETAILS

RESULT: 1, M Hakkinen (Fin, McLaren) 1hr 36min 03.785sec; 2, M Schumacher (Ger, Ferrari) at 4.9sec; 3, H H Frentzen (Ger, Jordan) one lap; 4, R Schumacher (Ger, Williams) one lap; 5, E Irvine (Ire, Ferrari) one lap; 6, O Panis (Fr, Prost) one lap; 7, A Wurz (Austria, Benetton) two laps; 8, T Takagi (Japan, Arrows) three laps; 9, M Gene (Sp, Minardi) three laps. Did not finish: P de la Rosa (Sp, Arrows) 52 laps completed; J Villeneuve (Can, BAR) 49; A Zanardi (It, Williams) 43; R Barrichello (Bra, Stewart) 42; P Diniz (Bra, Sauber) 42; G Fisichella (It, Benetton) 38; S Sarrazin (Fr, Minardi); J Alesi (Fr, Sauber) 27; D Coulthard (GB, McLaren) 22; J Trulli (It, Prost) 21; J Herbert (GB, Stewart) 15; D Hill (GB, Jordan) 10. Did not start: R Zonta (Br, BAR).

CHAMPIONSHIP POSITIONS: Drivers: 1, Irvine 12pts; equal 2, Hakkinen and Frentzen 10; 4, R Schumacher 7; 5, M Schumacher 6; 6, Fisichella 3; 7, Barrichello 2; equal 8, De la Rosa and Panis 1. Constructors: 1, Ferrari 18; equal 2, McLaren and Jordan 10; 4, Williams 7; 5, Benetton 3; 6, Stewart 2; equal 7, Arrows and Prost 1.

GRANDS PRIX TO COME: May 2: San Marino (Imola). May 16: Monaco (Monte Carlo). May 30: Spanish (Barcelona). June 13: Canadian (Montreal). June 27: French (Magny-Cours). July 11: British (Silverstone). July 25: Austrian (Zeltweg). Aug 1: German (Hockenheim). Aug 15: Hungarian (Budapest). Aug 29: Belgian (Spa-Francorchamps). Sept 12: Italian (Monza). Sept 26: European (Nürburgring). Oct 17: Malaysian (Kuala Lumpur). Oct 31: Japanese (Suzuka).

LINKS

WEBSITE: www.jordangp.com/ - news and driver profiles from Jordan's own site.

EXETER

ROB WRIGHT

2.25 Northern Drums
2.55 Kentish Bard
3.30 Native Charm
4.05 Gallant Taffy
4.35 Lizzys First
5.05 Jalb
5.35 Hardly

GOING: GOOD (GOOD TO SOFT IN PLACES) SIS

2.25 RIVER BARLE CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,425: 2m 1f 110yd) (14 runners)

1 6425 SOUTHAMPTON 123 (D,F,G,S) G Balding 9-12-0 F Keniry (5)
2 -F22 NORTHERN DRUMS 21 (B,D,G) R Baker 6-11-12 G Shenkin (3)
3 -216 NOT FOR PARROT 138 (G) P Hobbs 7-11-2 R Widger
4 -255 ATLANTIC MIST 50 (D,G) B Millman 6-10-13 T O'Connor (5)
5 50-F TENDER SITUATION 214 R Rowe 8-10-10 L Aspell
6 3320 ADVANCE EAST 24 (G,S) C Popham 7-10-9 O McPhail
7 2326 LA BRIGANTINE 24 (S) R Buckler 6-10-8 D O'Sullivan (5)
8 0500 THE NEWSMAN 20 (G) Miss S Edwards 7-10-7 O Burrows
9 05PP FALCON SALE 31 (B,T,S) M Pipe 4-10-7 G Supple
10 3326 GRANBY BELL 8 (S) P Hayward 8-10-7 J Tizzard
11 3002 MURRAY'S MILLION 18 J S Smith 7-10-6 S Durack
12 22PP KEEP ME IN MIND 75 (T,D,F,G,S) N Mitchell 10-10-4 A Bates
13 002/ SHEEP STEALER 28F (C,F,G) R Peacock 11-10-3 S Kelly
14 3504 WALK ON BY 10 J King 5-10-1 L Cummins

5-1 Northern Drums, 6-1 Murray's Million, Walk On By, 7-1 others.

2.55 RIVER DART HURDLE (Div I: £2,329 2m 3f) (18)

1 066 BARBIZON 39 B De Haan 5-11-0 J A McCarthy
2 0- CARNIVAL SAM 336 K Bishop 6-11-0 R Greene
3 46-6 CROOKEDSTONE 134 (S) K Bailey 7-11-0 N Williamson
4 000 DOUBLE STEAL 56 P Eccles 6-11-0 D Byrne
5 5 GHADAMES 46 I Williams 5-11-0 R Dunwoody
6 GLENGALE I Balding 7-11-0 Mr C Bonner
7 0-50 JACKSON'S HOLE 89 P Nicholls 6-11-0 J Tizzard
8 2430 KENTISH BARD 55 (S) N Gaselee 7-11-0 C Llewellyn
9 0/60 KEYNOTE 32 R Rowe 7-11-0 B Fenton
10 00PP LABULA BAY 27 (B) C Popham 5-11-0 O McPhail (5)
11 FP ROBBIE'S ADVENTURE 17P D Williams 5-11-0 R Johnson
12 0P- SOME GO WEST 359P Miss H Knight 5-11-0 M A Fitzgerald
13 6/P/ TIRLEY LEADER 1186 J S Smith 10-11-0 R Widger (5)
14 R-4U UP THE COUNTRY 13 (S) R Curtis 7-11-0 A Thornton
15 5/3P GOOD THYNE GIRL 47 R E Fowler 7-10-9 S Fox
16 MISS MARINA J Spearing 7-10-9 G Tormey
17 P2-2 PRIMITIVE STAR 112 (F) R Buckler 8-10-9 B Powell
18 56 ST MELLION WOOD 20 M Pipe 4-10-7 A P McCoy

4-1 Crookedstone, 9-2 Kentish Bard, 6-1 Ghadames, Glengale, 8-1 others.

3.30 DIAMOND EDGE HANDICAP CHASE (£4,562: 2m 3f) (10)

1 1211 NATIVE CHARM 31 (G,S) C Morlock 7-11-10 J A McCarthy
2 -121 LUKE WARM 46 (D,G,S) D Gandolfo 9-10-11 R Dunwoody
3 122U AMBLESIDE 8 (G,S) Mrs S Williams 8-10-11 T J Murphy
4 5F34 MR PLAYFULL 20 (CD,F,G,S) R Frost 9-10-9 J Frost
5 2F1P CELTIC SEASON 53 (S) Miss H Knight 7-10-8 M A Fitzgerald
6 -445 MISTER ODDY 101 (G,S) J King 13-10-2 L Cummins (3)
7 3251 REACH THE CLOUDS 10 (B,S) J Upson 7-10-2 J Tizzard
8 P2-F FAIR SOCIETY 53 (D,F,G,S) R Rowe 8-10-0 B Fenton
9 -443 NORMARANGE 21 (F) P Rodford 9-10-0 S Burrough
10 3PP3 PERSIAN TACTICS 10 (F,G,S) T Needham 10-10-0 C Llewellyn

3-1 Native Charm, 4-1 Ambleside, 5-1 Luke Warm, Reach The Clouds, 7-1 others.

4.05 WEATHERBYS NOVICES HANDICAP CHASE (£4,080: 2m 7f) (15)

1 2151 NORLANDIC 21 (CD,G,S) P Hobbs 7-11-10 R Widger (5)
2 3-50 JOY FOR LIFE 26 (G,S) R Strange 6-11-9 Mr S Strange (7)
3 41U3 BALLY LIRA 8 (S) P Rodford 7-11-7 S Burrough
4 4234 GARRISON FRIENDLY 22 (B,S) N Henderson 6-11-4 M A Fitzgerald
5 3352 GALLANT TAFFY 10 (B,S) M Pipe 7-11-2 A P McCoy
6 0-2P STORMY SESSION 27 P Nicholls 5-11-1 J Tizzard
7 -3P3 NORMANIA 19 (G) Miss S Edwards 7-11-1 Mr N Fehily (7)
8 30-3 LAUREN'S TREASURE 17 (F) Mrs S Williams 8-10-10 W Marston
9 -36P FANCY NANCY 70 (T,S) Miss C Johnsey 8-10-10 DOUBTFUL
10 4202 THE CAMPDONIAN 6 O O'Neill 8-10-10 V Slattery
11 0550 PLEASURELAND 54 (F,G) C Popham 6-10-9 B Powell
12 P051 TUCKERS TOWN 92 (S) R Rowe 7-10-8 B Fenton
13 26P LURRIGA GLITTER 867 (B) R J Smith 11-10-7 J Goldstein (3)
14 1240 PRIDE OF PENNKER 130 (F) A Newcombe 6-10-6 T J Murphy
15 21P0 BELLS WOOD 19 (B,G,S) A Dunn 10-10-4 P Holley

6-1 Norlandic, 13-2 Bally Lira, 7-1 Gallant Taffy, Stormy Session, The Campdonian, Tuckers Town, 8-1 Garrison Friendly, 10-1 others.

4.35 TIMBER HANDICAP HURDLE (£3,079: 2m 7f) (13)

1 1-PP ACCOUNTANCY LADY 27 (T,G,S) M Pipe 9-11-11 A P McCoy
2 35P0 SPRING MARATHON 21 (B,G,S) Mrs P Dutfield 9-11-10 P Holley
3 1-00 SUPREME GENOTIN 32 (G,S) J Old 10-11-6 T J Murphy
4 2133 SUNRISE SPECIAL 8 (C,S) P Rodford 6-11-1 S Burrough
5 1145 LIZZYS FIRST 20 (C,S) B Millman 7-11-1 D Salter
6 11P0 SNOW BOARD 43 (B,BF,C,S) Mrs M Jones 10-10-10 R Johnson
7 10- DAJRAAN 920 (BF,S) N Twiston-Davies 10-10-8 C Llewellyn
8 3351 ROYAL PIPER 17 (F,S) A J Wilson 12-10-8 R Greene
9 6340 WALTER'S DESTINY 8 (G) C Mitchell 7-10-7 Sophie Mitchell
10 50-P ONE WORD 10 (S) D Williams 7-10-0 B Powell
11 P.65 JIMBALOU 8 (F,G,S) R Brazington 16-10-0 R Massey
12 4005 DARING KING 8 (F,S) M Bolton 9-10-0 J Goldstein (3)
13 PPPP LAJADHAL 33 (F) P Purdy 10-10-0 M Sharratt

11-4 Royal Piper, 11-2 Sunrise Special, 6-1 Lizzys First, 8-1 Dajraan, 10-1 Accountancy Lady, Supreme Genotin, 12-1 Snow Board, 14-1 others.

5.05 RACING CHANNEL NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,826: 2m 1f 110yd) (18)

1 0F30 LORD OF THE FLIES 57 (G) Miss Knight 6-11-12 M Batchelor (5)
2 322U WINDY VALLEY 124 (B,G) P Hobbs 6-11-7 R Dunwoody
3 2P0- PERFECT PAL 215F (F,S) M Coombe 8-11-6 Miss M Coombe
4 5112 BLAZE OF OAK 8 (BF,D,S) P Eccles 8-11-5 Miss V Roberts (7)
5 5413 FALCON RIDGE 10 (D,S) Miss E Lavelle 5-11-5 B Fenton
6 01 DARING NEWS 20 (S) O O'Neill 4-11-3 H Oliver (5)
7 PP0 TREASURE CHEST 28 (V,T) M Pipe 4-11-0 A P McCoy
8 0421 JALB 6 (G) P Murphy 5-10-11 L Aspell
9 46F2 SANDORAN 10 M Hill 6-10-9 D Salter
10 52F0 TRYMYPLY 90 H Webb 7-10-9 R Farrant
11 P-50 TRACEYTOWN 19 G Balding 7-10-7 F Keniry (7)
12 0054 MARSH MARIGOLD 7 (S) G Fierro 5-10-5 X Aizpuru (3)
13 U40F SILENT GUNS 10 (S) G Edwards 10-10-5 J Power (7)
14 000P NAKHAL 27 N Ayliffe 6-10-5 L Cummins (3)
15 00UP CASHABAN 10 J S Smith 6-10-4 R Widger (5)
16 0053 MY LOST LOVE 8 A Hollingsworth 4-10-0 Mr C R Weaver (7)
17 0P-P ROBERTO RIVA 85 I Williams 6-10-0 R Walsley
18 4/P- SAUCY DANCER 419F G Ham 6-10-0 S Burrough

3-1 Jalb, 5-1 Blaze Of Oak, 6-1 Falcon Ridge, 7-1 Sandoran, 8-1 others.

5.35 RIVER DART HURDLE (Div II: £2,329: 2m 3f) (18)

1 412 HARDLY 39 (S) Miss H Knight 6-11-6 M A Fitzgerald
2 0-00 BARAN ITSU 55 K Burke 5-11-0 R Thornton
3 00 BEECHCROFT BAY 13 Mrs P Dutfield 5-11-0 P Holley
4 PP CALL ME BERTIE 31P P Rich 6-11-0 S Durack
5 CONNEMARA FREEWAY J Neville 7-11-0 T Dascombe
6 0 GRANDPA MAURICE 92 R Baker 5-11-0 G Shenkin (5)
7 004 HARRY HOTSPUR 31 I Williams 6-11-0 G Tormey
8 0-0 MANNEKEN PIS 75 K Bailey 6-11-0 Mr R Forristal (5)
9 P-0P PALATIAL VIEW 55 R Curtis 7-11-0 J Leach
10 404 RAN WILD 20 S Sherwood 6-11-0 D Gallagher
11 6 ROSS MINSTER 38 P Hobbs 5-11-0 C Maude
12 /45/ STAR MYSTERY 778 (BF) C Egerton 8-11-0 N Williamson
13 5P SUNLIT BOY 38 I Balding 7-11-0 R Dunwoody
14 3R60 WELSH HARVEST 21 D Williams 7-11-0 B Powell
15 6P WINTER LORD 20 O O'Neill 8-11-0 H Oliver (5)
16 40 HERE'S HOPING 21 R Buckler 7-10-9 J Tizzard
17 6F22 KELLYS CONQUEST 35 (BF,S) J Mullins 6-10-9 A Thornton
18 00/ SULVEN 771 (BF) K Bailey 7-10-9 R Walsley

5-4 Hardly, 2-1 Kellys Conquest, 8-1 Star Mystery, 10-1 others.

RACING AHEAD

Andy Stephens suggests the best value in the ante-post market

STAKIS CASINOS SCOTTISH GRAND NATIONAL
Ayr, April 17

GUIDE TO THE PRICES

	Coral	Hills	Ladbrokes
Young Kenny	3-1	5-2	3-1
Clever Remark	5-1	5-1	6-1
Hollybank Buck	6-1	7-1	8-1
Scotby	8-1	7-1	6-1
Tell The Nipper	6-1	8-1	7-1
Prime Example	12-1	11-1	8-1
Sparky Gayle	12-1	11-1	12-1
Forest Ivory	10-1	12-1	12-1
The Next Waltz	-	14-1	12-1
Fafadet V	12-1	16-1	20-1
Full Of Oats	14-1	16-1	16-1
Cariboo Gold	20-1	20-1	25-1

The Scottish Grand National, which will be run at Ayr on Saturday, has been a wretched race for punters in recent years (since 1990 six winners have started at 16-1 or bigger) but that is unlikely to prevent Young Kenny - one of 18 horses left in at yesterday's five-day declaration stage - from starting one of the strongest fancies since Red Rum obliged at 11-8 in 1974.

Young Kenny, a thorough stayer at home in the mud, will start a worthy favourite after his emphatic wins in the Greenalls Grand National Trial and Midlands Grand National (Eider Chase winner Hollybank Buck was back in third) but the combination of topweight, his recent hard races and expected heavy going means he is opposable.

PRIME EXAMPLE, available at 12-1 with Coral, looks a solid each-way alternative. The Martin Todhunter-trained eight-year-old has thrived since being unleashed over extreme distances in his past three races and completed a hat-trick of victories in decisive style on his latest start over four miles at Kelso. His style of running - he has a high cruising speed and does just enough once in front - means the handicapper has probably not been able to gauge his full ability so the fact that he is languishing 10lb out of the handicap could be misleading. Moreover, he is a sound jumper who will be fresh as this will be only his third run since winning at Ayr back in early December.

Scotby, another thorough stayer at home in the mud, has also had a light campaign and is another for the shortlist after his recent successes at Towcester. David Nicholson has a good recent record in this race - Moorcroft Boy won for him in 1996 and Baronet followed suit last year - so Forest Ivory commands respect. However, his jumping remains a concern. Clever Remark (unproven much beyond three miles), Tell The Nipper (sketchy jumper who finds little off the bridle) and The Next Waltz (has had a busy campaign) are easy to pass over while Sparky Gayle, who has been so expensive to follow, is far from certain to get this trip.

Court of Appeal — **Law Report April 13 1999** — **Queen's Bench Division**

Brother was constructive trustee

James v Williams

Before Sir Stephen Brown, President, Lord Justice Swinton-Thomas and Lord Justice Aldous

[Judgment March 8]

A beneficiary under an intestacy who had sought to establish title by behaving as if he were the sole owner could be deemed to be a constructive trustee of the estate for his siblings even though he had not taken out letters of administration so that section 15(1) of the Limitation Act 1980 did not operate to time-bar an action for the recovery of an interest in the land.

The Court of Appeal so stated when allowing an appeal by the plaintiff, Mary James, against the order of Judge Anthony Thompson, QC, sitting as a judge of the Chancery Division at Truro District Registry, Cornwall on October 30, 1997 when he held that the plaintiff's claim to a third share of the family property known as Rose Cottage, Penzance was time-barred under section 15(1) of the 1980 Act.

The appeal was allowed on the grounds, inter alia, that the judge had erred in failing to decide on the facts that the plaintiff's brother was a constructive trustee of the property so that by virtue of section 21(1)(*b*) of the Limitation Act 1980 no period of limitation applied.

Mr Hugh Parker for the plaintiff; Mr David Ainger for the defendant.

LORD JUSTICE ALDOUS said that the facts of the case were unusual. The plaintiff believed that Rose Cottage was rented although her father had in fact bought the property in 1953. Her parents had died intestate, the father in 1971 and the mother in 1972.

Her brother and sister had remained living in Rose Cottage throughout while she, after her marriage in 1951, had been effectively excluded from the family home and made to feel unwelcome.

From the time of the mother's death in 1972 the brother had behaved as if the property belonged to him, even to the extent of taking out a £7,000 mortgage on it in 1986. As his name was the same as that of his father on the title deeds no questions had been asked.

Neither the brother nor the sister had ever married and on the brother's death in 1993 Rose Cottage passed under his will to the sister. When she died in 1995, she left it to her daughter, the defendant.

That same year, having realised the true situation, the plaintiff issued an originating summons claiming that on her mother's intestacy she was entitled to a third share in the property.

The judge held that, as the brother could not be deemed a constructive trustee, the claim was statute-barred under section 15(1) and paragraph 2 of Schedule 1 to the 1980 Act as more than 12 years had passed since the death of the plaintiff's mother who was the last person entitled to the property to be in possession of it.

It was common ground that on the mother's death her estate fell to be held on statutory trusts for all three children under sections 46 and 47 of the Administration of Estates Act 1925 and that the brother, having behaved as if the property belonged to him, was an executor de son tort.

It was also accepted that, by virtue of section 68(1)(9) of the Trustee Act 1925, an executor de son tort was not a trustee unless he was also a personal representative.

As the brother here had not taken out letters of administration on the mother's death, he could not be an express trustee so that, unless he could be deemed to be a constructive trustee, the 12-year limitation period started to run from the time of the mother's death.

His Lordship said that there was no direct authority on that point. However, where an executor de son tort sought to establish title by adverse possession against his adult siblings there would appear to be every justification for imposing a constructive trust.

Here he brother had taken possession knowing that his father had bought the property, that the parents had died intestate and that the plaintiff was entitled to a share.

If he had taken out letters of administration he would have been a personal representative and a trustee and, while there was no duty to become a personal representative, there was a duty to see that equity prevailed.

The circumstances were such that a constructive trust had arisen on the mother's death in 1972 and that the brother, knowing he was not the sole owner, was under an equitable duty to hold the property as a trustee for himself and his sisters.

Accordingly the action was not time-barred.

Sir Stephen Brown and Lord Justice Swinton-Thomas agreed.

Solicitors: Pool Purchas & Stokes, Penzance; Cornish & Birtill, Penzance.

'Instrument' does not mean vessel

Regina v Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, Ex parte Bray

Before Mr Justice Scott Baker

[Judgment March 23]

The term "instrument" in section 5 of the Sea Fisheries Regulation Act 1966 did not include the vessel to which the instrument was attached. The section was sufficiently widely drawn that a bylaw restricting fishing by reference to the size of a vessel was valid under the generality of the purpose and meaning of the section.

Mr Justice Scott Baker so held in the Queen's Bench Division in refusing the application of Nigel Bray for judicial review by way of certiorari to quash the confirmation by the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food on April 18, 1996 of the Committee for Sussex Sea Fisheries District Bylaw No 3.

Section 5 of the 1966 Act provides:

"(1) The local fisheries committee for a sea fisheries district may ... make bylaws ... for all or any of the following purposes ... (b) for restricting or prohibiting ... any method of fishing for sea fish or the use of any instrument of fishing for sea fish and for determining the size of mesh, form and dimensions of any instrument of fishing for sea fish..."

Mr Michael Davey for Mr Bray; Mr Peter Mantle for the ministry.

MR JUSTICE SCOTT BAKER said that Bylaw No 3 of the Committee for Sussex Sea Fisheries District dated April 18, 1996 prohibited fishing vessels over 14 metres in length from fishing within six miles of the shore.

Mr Davey had tackled the construction of section 5(1)(b) on the basis that it was necessary to look separately at "instrument of fishing" and "method of fishing" and said the bylaw did not fall under the natural meaning of either phrase.

Mr Mantle submitted that one should not analyse the literal meaning of the expressions out of the context of the rest of the Act.

Section 5(1)(a) made it clear that the committees' powers to make bylaws was wide. It was not therefore necessary to examine minutely "instrument of fishing" and "method of fishing".

His Lordship said that generally a draftsman intended a word or phrase to have the same meaning throughout an Act. Accordingly, it was difficult to read "instrument of fishing" in section 5 as including a vessel where "instrument" was clearly not used in that sense in section 10.

Mr Mantle submitted that fishing vessels were specialised vessels constructed and adapted for the purpose. Typically, vessels used for catching fish were not merely a means of conveyance to a fishing ground and platform from which an instrument was used, but an active tool in the operation.

His Lordship was unable to accept that argument in the light of the arguments advanced by Mr Davey. In his Lordship's view "instrument of fishing" had to be construed narrowly and did not include the vessel to which the instrument might be attached.

It was not necessary to classify the vessel as a method or instrument in order for the bylaw to be upheld.

The section was sufficiently widely drawn for a bylaw to be made to cover prohibiting the use of a boat exceeding 14 metres in length in fishing for sea fish.

Section 5 was to be looked at as a whole. The draftsman was endeavouring to give wide powers of control to local committees. The section provided an all embracing power to make bylaws to control fishing on a district by district basis.

Solicitors: Andrew M. Jackson & Co, Hull; Solicitor, Ministry of Agriculture Fisheries and Food.

Applicant has no right to own interpreter

Regina v Secretary of State for the Home Department, Ex parte Bostanci

Before Mr Justice Scott Baker

[Judgment March 24]

At an immigration interview of an asylum applicant where a Home Office interpreter was present, an interpreter instructed by the asylum applicant had no right to be present. His admission was at the immigration officer's discretion.

Mr Justice Scott Baker so held in the Queen's Bench Division when allowing an application by Emel Bostanci for judicial review of the decision of the Secretary of State for the Home Department, made on September 5, 1997 not to allow her access to an immigration interview and subsequently not to admit her as an interpreter to any interviews at Stansted Airport until January 29, 1998.

Mr Mark Henderson for the applicant; Mr Sam Grodzinski for the Home Secretary.

MR JUSTICE SCOTT BAKER said that the applicant and her sister were freelance legal interpreters in the Turkish language.

On August 5, 1997 the applicant went to Stansted Airport with a legal clerk to act as an interpreter on behalf of an asylum seeker during his asylum interview and to prevent him from being misunderstood during the interview.

In accordance with usual practice, an interpreter from the Home Office was present. The Immigration Service denied the applicant access to the interview which proceeded in her absence.

The applicant and her sister were subsequently subjected to a ban from carrying out their work at Stansted, which was lifted on January 29, 1998. Following a request by the applicant the Home Secretary stated that grounds of the ban were confidential.

On February 27, 1998 the Home Secretary stated that the ban was in place because it was thought to be inappropriate for the applicant and her sister to have access to incoming passengers because their father was a politician.

In *R v Secretary of State for the Home Department, Ex parte Lawson* ([1994] Imm AR 58) it was held that there was no right to legal representation during an asylum interview and that an immigration officer had a discretion to permit a representative to be present, which had to be properly exercised.

His Lordship said that just as there was no legal right to a legal representative, so too it must follow that there was no absolute right for an interpreter to assist the legal representative or applicant at an asylum interview where a Home Office interpreter was present.

Whether the interpreter was allowed to attend was a matter of discretion of the Immigration Officer, and that discretion was of a broad nature to be exercised reasonably and not irrationally: see *Associated Provincial Picture Houses Ltd v Wednesbury Corporation* ([1948] 1 KB 223).

The reason for exclusion was primarily that the father was a well known Turkish political activist resident in the UK, and in the open plan immigration area of Stansted the applicant could come into contact with other asylum seekers from Turkey or Cyprus fleeing the political organisation of her father's.

However, there was nothing to suggest anything against the applicant by way of political background, activity or anything else and the only basis of objection was that she was her father's daughter. There was no evidence to indicate the closeness between them or that the applicant purveyed the views of her father.

Accordingly, the decision of the respondent to exclude the applicant in the exercise of his discretion was unreasonable and irrational in the *Wednesbury* sense and was therefore unlawful.

Solicitors: Howe & Co, Ealing; Treasury Solicitor.

Security for costs

Greenwich Ltd v National Westminster Bank plc and Others

The court had jurisdiction under Order 23, rule 1(1)(a) of the Rules of the Supreme Court, which was concerned with plaintiffs ordinarily resident out of the jurisdiction, to order a plaintiff which was incorporated and resident in the Isle of Man to give security for costs.

Mr Justice Blackburne so held in the Chancery Division on March 31, when ordering the plaintiff, Greenwich Ltd to pay to the first defendant, National Westminster Bank plc security for costs in the sum of £120,000.

HIS LORDSHIP said that the court might order a plaintiff to give security for costs if, having regard to all the circumstances of the case, the court thought it just. It was not the case that security could only be ordered under Order 23, rule 1(1)(a) if the requirements of section 726 of the Companies Act 1985 were satisfied.

Amending planning enforcement notice

Jarmain v Secretary of State for the Environment, Transport and the Regions and Another

Before Mr Nigel Macleod, QC

[Judgment March 12]

Enforcement action taken in respect of the same physical development as earlier action was taken in respect of the same breach of planning control, for the purposes of section 171B(4)(b) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, as inserted, and the breach did not have to be identically described on both occasions for the subsection to apply.

Mr Nigel Macleod, QC, sitting as a deputy judge in the Queen's Bench Division, so held dismissing an appeal by Roger Raymond Jarmain under section 289(1) of the 1990 Act, against the decision of the Secretary of State for the Environment, Transport and the Regions given by letter on November 23, 1998, to dismiss his appeal against an enforcement notice served by Welwyn Hatfield District Council under section 172 of the Act, as substituted by section 5 of the Planning and Compensation Act 1991.

The appellant in person; Miss Nathalie Lieven for the secretary of state; the council was not represented.

HIS LORDSHIP said that the appellant had temporary planning permission for a mobile home which, unknown to the council, he transformed into a single storey dwelling in 1993.

Subsequently the planning permission ran out and in 1996 the council issued an enforcement notice against him for retaining the mobile home.

When in 1998 the council discovered that the mobile home had become a permanent structure it withdrew the first enforcement notice and issued a second notice alleging unauthorised erection of a single storey dwelling.

The appellant appealed against that notice arguing that it was out of time, and that the council could not rely on section 171B(4)(b) of the 1990 Act, as inserted by section 4 of the 1991 Act, because the second notice had not been issued in respect of the same breach of planning control as the first.

The secretary of state's inspector dismissed the appeal finding that both notices were directed at the same structure and that the council had been taking action against the same breach on both occasions.

In his Lordship's judgment, the appellant's interpretation of section 171B(4)(b) was too narrow and would weaken the provision considerably. The subsection did not require the breach to be identically described in both enforcement notices.

On its true interpretation section 171B(4)(b) could not be used to cover two different developments or two different changes of use, but it could be used, as here, to cover two different descriptions of the same development.

Solicitors: Treasury Solicitor.

Seriousness of firearms offences

Regina v Hill (Norman David William)

Before Lord Justice Simon Brown, Mr Justice Richards and Judge Colston, QC

[Judgment March 15]

Although the same maximum term of five years imprisonment applied to offences under section 1 of the Firearms Act 1968 (possession of a firearm without a certificate), section 2 (possession of a shotgun without a certificate) and section 21 (possession of a firearm when prohibited), the last offence was likely to be considered most serious.

The Court of Appeal, Criminal Division, so held in allowing an appeal by Norman David William Hill against a sentence imposed on August 8, 1998, at Barnstaple Crown Court (Mr Recorder Parish) of two and a half years imprisonment for an offence of possessing a firearm when prohibited, contrary to section 21(2) and (4) of the 1968 Act.

He was sentenced at the same time to concurrent terms of 12 months imprisonment for possessing a firearm without a firearm certificate, contrary to section 1(1)(a), possessing a shotgun without a shotgun certificate, contrary to section 2, and possessing ammunition without a firearm certificate, contrary to section 1(1)(b).

Mr Andrew Chubb, assigned by the Registrar of Criminal Appeals, for the appellant.

MR JUSTICE RICHARDS, giving the judgment of the court, said that the court in *R v Avis* ([1998] 1 Cr App R 420) had included offences under section 21, although not those under sections 1 or 2, among those where the custodial term was likely to be of considerable length.

That suggested that breaches of section 21 might be considered more serious notwithstanding that the maximum term was the same. Their Lordships were inclined to share that view.

Possession of a firearm without a certificate was a matter of legitimate concern.

But other things being equal there was likely to be even greater legitimate concern about possession of such a weapon by a former prisoner who was specifically debarred by statute from possessing it and who, on his release from prison, had been expressly told of the prohibition and required to sign a written acknowledgment to that effect.

Accordingly, the submission was not accepted that a higher sentence could not be justified for this offence than for the other counts in the indictment in the circumstances of the case where the factual background was the same.

Nevertheless, the offence, although serious, was not so serious as to merit a sentence of two and a half years imprisonment or so great a differential between it and the sentence of one year imposed for possession of the same items without a certificate. A sentence of 18 months imprisonment would therefore be substituted.

RACING: CHAMPION JOCKEY OFFERED RIDE ON FRENCH-TRAINED 1,000 GUINEAS FAVOURITE MOIAVA

Head turns to Fallon

By Chris McGrath

KIEREN FALLON yesterday discovered the brightest of silver linings to the cloud over Bionic by being offered the ride on her replacement as Sagitta 1,000 Guineas favourite. Criquette Head has asked the champion to partner Moiava, after Olivier Doleuze was suspended at Longchamp on Sunday.

Bionic, so highly regarded by Fallon, was scratched from the betting when pulling up lame at exercise ten days ago. Fallon noted that he can only ride Moiava on the basis that his principal employer, Henry Cecil, does not find a live alternative to Bionic. That he has been otherwise receptive would not appear to augur especially well for Enemy Action, whose credentials are tested today in the Shadwell Stud Nell Gwyn Stakes at Newmarket.

The misfortune that befell Bionic is just one in a series afflicting favourites for the 1,000 Guineas. First and worst was the gallops injury which claimed the life of Bint Allayl, but Moiava herself has not spared her trainer headaches. She missed her intended rehearsal at Maisons-Laffitte last Friday because of a minor infection and has now been deprived of her jockey after Doleuze mistook the winning post on Sunday. Having been celebrating victory when collared on the line, he was suspended from April 20 to May 5.

"It's always a concern to lose your jockey," Mme Head said yesterday. "But Moiava is a straightforward filly who will present no complications, and people like Fallon can ride anything. It's a shame for Olivier, though, because he misses a lot of other good rides, including Juvenia's prep for the French Guineas."

Already last autumn the trainer was confident that Moiava was ideally qualified to defend her excellent 1,000 Guineas record, despite the Prix Marcel Boussac success of Juvenia. "Moiava has done well over the winter and looked very well before these little pimples appeared on a joint before the Prix Imprudence," she said. "That was nothing, really, and we have enough horses at home to bring her to Newmarket with a good chance. She will have a gallop at Maisons-Laffitte on Friday."

The Bering filly made all to win both her starts last season, and could well benefit from Fallon's positive style. "She likes a straight course and has a huge action, so she needs pace," her trainer added. "It's different in France, because races are so slowly run, but there should be a good gallop at Newmarket. There's stamina in her pedigree and she should stay a mile all right."

Enemy Action is one of 11 declared for the Nell Gwyn, over seven of the eight furlongs that will stage the classic at the July Course on May 2 (the Rowley Mile being closed during construction of a new grandstand). The strength of the field has been diluted by Jeremy Noseda's decision to go straight to the Guineas with Wannabe Grand, though Circle Of Gold attempts to retrieve earlier promise.

At Newbury on Saturday the Tripleprint Stakes, more familiar as the Greenham, offers an alternative for Mujahid, the Sagitta 2,000 Guineas favourite — but the City Index Craven Stakes at Newmarket on Thursday remains favoured, given suitable ground. Auction House, who chased home Mujahid in the Dewhurst, and Enrique, who finished fourth, are likely runners at Newbury, but Commander Collins will not run before the Guineas.


FIONA HANSON

Circle Of Gold, right, tackles the Nell Gwyn Stakes at Newmarket today

Owners await verdict in classic trial

JULIAN MUSCAT

On the level

The following Britons share one thing in common: Colin Montgomerie, David Coulthard, Greg Rusedski, Lawrence Dallaglio and Alec Stewart have known profound sporting disappointment in the past ten days. Dallaglio, the England rugby captain, and Rusedski, Great Britain's Davis Cup player, suffered the biggest hits. Their failures condemned them to soul-searching misery, yet the prospect of redemption awaits. There will be other grand slam deciders for Dallaglio, other Davis Cup duels for Rusedski.

One glaring exception runs contrary to the theme of the "second chance". It is that of the (modest) racehorse owner who has been encouraged to dream that he might just have a racehorse of talent. Such thoughts have run wild within upwards of 50 individuals for the past nine months. Over the next five days, the vast majority of them will be dashed by the cold reality of racecourse performance.

Just think of it: Dallaglio and his men had 86 minutes in which to impose themselves; Rusedski nearly four hours in that compelling skirmish with Jim Courier. For these owners, however, nine months of waiting distils to around 100 seconds of breakneck galloping. The classic trials are upon us.

Nothing matches the swelling in your stomach when your trainer declares, unprompted, that the hair in the tail of the creature in your possession might be attached to a horse of potential. Suddenly all those crippling keep fees will seem like chicken-feed. The sky is the limit.

How much greater, therefore, is the mist of dejection when hope collapses like a house of cards. Owning a good racehorse is genuinely a once-in-a-lifetime experience often denied to the majority, as it will be for all but the lucky few whose charges excel this week. There is no sporting parallel with this one-off, bone-shaking experience.

Some trainers adhere to the childhood diktat not to make false promises. Others trade in expectation: tell owners anything that will encourage them for as long as possible. The latter was once a well-trodden route. Then followed the small hiccup, the bout of flu, the sudden growth spurt, the need for more time, the debilitating virus, the lacklustre gallop, the lamenting of what might have been but for these things, the unbalanced bank balance, the hugely deflating experience. These were the bad old days from which the occasional hangover lingers.

To owners, trainers are the spin-doctors of the business. Pronouncements on their near-mystical profession have the capacity to elate or despair. Some go to great lengths to guard owners against rampant optimism, yet the act of contesting a classic trial betrays their opinion of the horse. It is when the owner discovers whether the dream survives or dies.

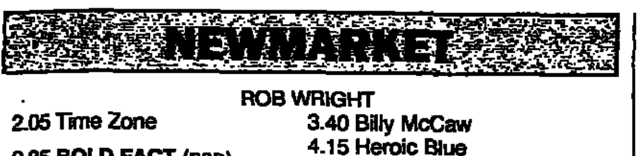
Most racehorse owners are wealthy but some are more wealthy than others. None more than Sheikh Mohammed, whose early involvement, strange to relate, fell short of the expected harvest. What did he do? He bought more horses, tilted odds in his favour, took ownership to unprecedented numerical levels before regrouping around Godolphin's banner.

It was this scatter gun approach that caused resentment among British owners of far lesser resources. Imagine: you are a self-made millionaire made to feel a pauper by the sheikh's inestimable wealth. He savoured winning the National Lottery despite buying large numbers of tickets. These days he is buying far fewer — but making far bigger offers for tickets with three numbers already plucked from the hat. He can buy so many dream tickets that one is almost certain to be cashed.

For these reasons, the expressions of Middle Eastern owners will not illustrate the crushing of those dreams at Newmarket and Newbury this week. No, these trials represent the biggest ordeal for the moderately wealthy owner who sustains the game with his partnership in a handful of horses — or ownership of one or two outright. His creature has done well to get this far, yet now confronts the biggest test of all: translating his potential into hard currency.

Talented thoroughbreds are worth their weight in gold, yet money is hardly the issue. It is about emotion, elation and ecstasy. For the vast majority this week, it will be about despair and dejection.

□ *Julian Muscat writes on Flat racing every Tuesday*



ROB WRIGHT

2.05 Time Zone
2.35 **BOLD FACT** (nap)
3.10 Enemy Action
3.40 Billy McCaw
4.15 Heroic Blue
4.45 World Alert
5.20 Aesops

Timekeeper's top rating: 2.35 **BOLD FACT.**

Our Newmarket correspondent: 2.05 El Mobasherr. 4.15 **HEROIC BLUE** (nap). 4.45 Ettrick.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM — TOTE JACKPOT MEETING
DRAW: NO ADVANTAGE — SIS

READING THE RACECARD

103 (12) 0-0432 GOOD TIMES 74 (CD,BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 9-10-0 ...... B West (4) 88

Racecard number. Draw in brackets. Six-figure form (F - fell. P - pulled up. U - unseated rider. B - brought down. S - slipped up. R - refused. D - disqualified). Horse's name. Days since last outing. J if jumps. (B - blinkers. V - visor. T - tongue strap. H - hood. E - Eyeshield. C - course winner. D - distance winner. CD course and distance winner. BF - beaten favourite in most recent race). Going on which horse has won (F - firm, good to firm, hard. G - good. S - soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight to be carried. Rider plus any allowance. Timekeeper's speed rating

2.05 APRIL MAIDEN STAKES (C4)

(3-Y-O: £4,305: 1m 4f) (10 runners)

No	Draw	Form	Horse	Jockey	Rating
101	(7)	3-	ALL THE WAY 227 (J Humphreys (Turf Accountants)) T Mills 9-0	T Quinn	64
102	(2)	533-30	CHALLENGES 8 (J Guden) B Meehan 9-0	W J O'Connor	79
103	(4)		COURT OF JUSTICE (R Sangster) P Chapple-Hyam 9-0	J Fortune	–
104	(6)		EL MOBASHERR (Sheikh A al-Maktoum) M Jarvis 9-0	L Dettori	–
105	(10)	5-	ELMUTABAKI 158 (H al-Maktoum) B Hills 9-0	R Hills	60
106	(3)	55-2	IPLEDGEALLEGIANCE 18 (BF) (M al-Maktoum) E Dunlop 9-0	Pat Eddery	■
107	(1)	23-	TIME ZONE 164 (Wyck Hall Stud) C Brittain 9-0	P Robinson	76
108	(9)		WAR CABINET (K Abdulla) H Cecil 9-0	W Ryan	–
109	(5)		ZILARATOR (Dandy Racing Limited) W Haggas 9-0	J F Egan	–
110	(8)	32-	RAMRUMA 189 (BF) (H R H Prince Fahd Salman) H Cecil 8-9	K Fallon	31

BETTING: 2-1 Ramruma, 9-2 Court of Justice, 5-1 Ipledgeallegiance, 8-1 El Mobasherr, Time Zone, 10-1 War Cabinet, 12-1 Elmutabaki, 14-1 others.

1998: CAPRI 9-0 K Fallon (13-8 fav) H Cecil 10 ran

A real test of stamina for these three-year-olds. Time Zone has sound form claims on his excellent 1¾l third to Adnaan in the listed Zetland Stakes at Newmarket (1m 2f) last year, but it could pay to take a chance with the Peter Chapple-Hyam newcomer COURT OF JUSTICE. By Alleged, a top sire of middle-distance and staying types, this colt is closely related to the classy, former Manton inmates Court Of Honour and Single Empire. The yard boasts an excellent 24% strike-rate with its first-time-out three-year-olds over the past three years. Henry Cecil saddles two in Ramruma and the Rainbow Quest newcomer, War Cabinet. The former, preferred by stable jockey Kieren Fallon and an encouraging 3l second to Magda in a Nottingham (1m) maiden in October, merits respect. El Mobasherr and Zilarator, by the top milers Machiavellian and Zilzal respectively, could struggle to get home, but Ipledgeallegiance kept on well when chasing home Turaath (beaten 5l) at Doncaster (1m 2f) on his reappearance and may do even better at this trip.

2.35 NGK SPARK PLUGS ABERNANT STAKES (C4)

(Listed race; £13,103: 6f) (14 runners)

No	Draw	Form	Horse	Jockey	Rating
201	(14)	6122-1	TEDBURROW 17 (C,D,F,S) (P Davies) E Alston 7-9-9	M Hills	111
202	(4)	0002-2	YORKIES BOY 17 (F,S) (Mrs M Beddis) B McMahon 4-9-9	J Fortune	102
203	(9)	25251-	BOLD EDGE 179 (D,F,G,S) (Lady Whent & Friends) R Hannon 4-9-7	Dane O'Neill	123
204	(10)	10013-	BOLD FACT 201 (BF,CD,F,G) (K Abdulla) H Cecil 4-9-7	K Fallon	■
205	(3)	24011-	GORSE 157 (D,S) (Girsonfield Ltd) H Candy 4-9-7	T Quinn	116
206	(8)	04116-	TIPSY CREEK 199 (BF,CD,F,G) (H al-Maktoum) B Hanbury 5-9-7	R Hills	107
207	(12)	030-36	ALWAYS ALIGHT 8 (D,F,S) (M Nelmes-Crocker) K Burke 5-9-3	J F Egan	106
208	(13)	030-54	CRETAN GIFT 8 (B,D,F,G,S) (T Clarke) N Littmoden 8-9-3	L Dettori	121
209	(1)	53303-	DASHING BLUE 194 (D,F,G) (Mrs D Allen) I Balding 6-9-3	R Cochrane	126
210	(11)	06/00-	EASY DOLLAR 157 (B,CD,F,G) (B Gubby Ltd) B Gubby 7-9-3	R Hughes	89
211	(7)	U060-1	HILL MAGIC 8 (D,F,G) (M Jackson Bloodstock Ltd) D Elsworth 4-9-3	N Pollard	106
212	(5)	10156-	STYLISH WAYS 162 (CD,F,G,S) (I Hall) J Pearce 7-9-3	R Price	94
213	(2)	01340-	NANOUSHKA 201 (D,F,G) (Thurloe Thoroughbreds III) R Hannon 4-8-2	Pat Eddery	120
214	(6)	01102-	EASTERN LYRIC 221 (F,G,S) (R Meredith) C Brittain 4-8-12	P Robinson	91

BETTING: 4-1 Bold Fact, 5-1 Hill Magic, Tedburrow, 7-1 Bold Edge, Tipsy Creek, 8-1 Dashing Blue, 12-1 Yorkies Boy, Nanoushka, 25-1 Always Alight, 33-1 Eastern Lyric, 66-1 Stylish Ways.

1998: TEDBURROW 6-9-2 K Fallon (10-1) E Alston 10 ran

Tedburrow, winner of this last year, showed his present wellbeing when beating Yorkies Boy 3l at Doncaster (6f) last month but has plenty on here under a 6lb penalty and is 12lb worse off with Cretan Gift for the 1¼l he beat him 12 months ago. Bold Edge signed off last season with a neck beating of Tedburrow (2lb better off) on the Rowley Mile course (6f), but Richard Hannon's horses are yet to spark and for that reason Nanoushka can also be passed over. Hill Magic's 1¾l defeat of Brave Edge in Kempton's Quail Stakes (6f) confirmed him to remain on the upgrade and marks him down as one for the shortlist. Preference though is for another progressive sort, GORSE. Unraced at two-years, he improved with his racing last year and showed a useful level of form when beating Yorkies Boy a neck at Doncaster (6f) in November. Bold Fact, not disgraced when eighth to Elnadim in the July Cup on his only try over 6f last year (all other starts over a furlong farther), has a touch of class and must have every chance for Kieren Fallon.

3.10 SHADWELL STUD NELL GWYN STAKES (C4)

(Group III: 3-Y-O: £20,000: 7f) (11 runners)

No	Draw	Form	Horse	Jockey	Rating
301	(8)	01211-	AMAZING DREAM 227 (F,G) (Jubert Family) R Hannon 8-9	Dane O'Neill	97
302	(1)	03154-	ATLANTIC DESTINY 178 (G,S) (Atlantic Racing Ltd) M Johnston 8-9	D Holland	100
303	(4)	2116-	CIRCLE OF GOLD 196 (D,F) (R E Sangster) P Chapple-Hyam 8-9	J Fortune	100
304	(11)	1-	ELLWAY STAR 231 (F) (Ellway Racing Partnership) B Hanbury 8-9	W Ryan	67
305	(10)	1140-	ENEMY ACTION 219 (F,G) (Cliveden Stud) H Cecil 8-9	K Fallon	■
306	(2)	10-	FRAPPE 199 (BF,S) (A Oppenheimer) G Wragg 8-9	M Roberts	88
307	(5)	21-	HAWRIYAH 183 (D,S) (H al-Maktoum) J Dunlop 8-9	R Hills	88
308	(6)	3-	LAMZENA 165 (R Bracher) G Wragg 8-9	T Quinn	68
309	(9)	1	NOUF 18 (D,S) (S Alsalary) K Mahdi 8-9	J Quinn	78
310	(7)	501-	SKI LODGE 183 (D,S) (Mrs S Collins) C Brittain 8-9	P Robinson	76
311	(3)	34132-	VALENTINE WALTZ 178 (D,G) (Kirby Maher Syndicate) J Gosden 8-9	L Dettori	100

BETTING: 7-2 Circle Of Gold, 9-2 Valentine Waltz, 11-2 Enemy Action, 6-1 Atlantic Destiny, 7-1 Nouf, 8-1 Amazing Dream, 12-1 Hawriyah, Lamzena, 14-1 others.

1998: CLOUD CASTLE 8-9 J Reid (33-1) C Brittain 7 ran

A competitive renewal of this Guineas trial that may go the way of CIRCLE OF GOLD (nap). A 33-1 shot for the first fillies' classic, the daughter of Royal Academy showed her best form last season when beating Choirgirl a length in the group three Prestige Stakes at Goodwood (7f) in August. She appeared to find the drop back to six furlongs against her when subsequently unable to land a blow on Wannabe Grand in the group one Cheveley Park. Enemy Action, two short-heads behind Wannabe Grand when under 2l fourth to Bint Allayl in the group one Lowther Stakes at York (6f), failed to repeat that form when subsequently well beaten in the Moyglare Stud Stakes (7f) at the Curragh but is the subject of encouraging reports. Valentine Waltz, trained by Aidan O'Brien her first four starts last season, showed progressive form for her new stable, culminating in an excellent 1¼l second to Hula Angel in the group two Rockfel Stakes (7f). She has the beating of Atlantic Destiny (2¾l further back in fourth) on that showing and is another who should go well. Amazing Dream, winner of the 27-runner Tattersalls Breeders Stakes at the Curragh (6f) in August, cannot be ruled out.

3.40 WILLIAM HILL HANDICAP [SHOWCASE RACE AND TOTE TRIFECTA RACE] (C4)

(3-Y-O: £7,766: 7f) (20 runners)

No	Draw	Form	Horse	Jockey	Rating
401	(17)	05024-	RED DELIRIUM 195 (BF,F) (T Neill) R Hannon 9-7	R Hughes	■
402	(12)	61052-	TOUGH GUY 171 (BF,CD,F,S) (Sqdn Ldr R Milsom) M Jarvis 9-5	P Robinson	98
403	(14)	1-2343	ADELPHI BOY 17 (B Brown) M Chapman 9-4	S Righton	77
404	(10)	42130-	MAPLE 185 (G) (G Steinberg) D Elsworth 9-4	N Pollard (3)	89
405	(2)	10465-	CHAMPAGNE RIDER 257 (BF,G,S) (Highgrove Dev. Ltd) K McAuliffe 9-4	J F Egan	75
406	(7)	53104-	HADLEIGH 182 (F) (C Donovan) R Armstrong 8-13	R Hills	71
407	(6)	010-4	FRANCO MINA 17 (F) (Mr & Mrs G Pinchen) M Channon 8-11	T Quinn	91
408	(5)	4331-	BILLY McCAW 247 (F) (Lord Lloyd-Webber) P Cole 8-10	K Fallon	83
409	(3)	331-	CALCUTTA 269 (S) (Hon Mrs J Corbett & J Hanson) B Hills 8-9	M Hills	96
410	(4)	532-2	GAUNTLET 18 (BF) (M Olden) J Noseda 8-8	Pat Eddery	90
411	(11)	6010-	COLONEL MUSTARD 215 (F) (Mrs J Hopper) J Fanshawe 8-7	R Cochrane	81
412	(19)	30102-	BLUE STAR 176 (BF) (T Clarke) N Littmoden 8-6	D Holland	97
413	(13)	2340-	BLACK SILK 196 (S Fustok) C Wall 8-4	G Hind	89
414	(18)	51206-	CASIMIR 191 (G) (P McGuinness & S Hammond) A Stewart 8-3	C Rutter	90
415	(20)	20661-	ROUTE SIXTY SIX 173 (D,S) (J B R Leisure Ltd) G L Moore 8-3	J Quinn	89
416	(1)	1303-	BODFARI QUARRY 157 (F) (Bodfari Stud Ltd) B Hills 8-2	K Sked (5)	76
417	(15)	260-	TOMOE GOZEN 237 (M Simpson) S Woods 8-1	G Duffield	87
418	(16)	02360-	SANTANDRE 169 (G) (G Lloyd) R Hollinshead 8-0	P M Quinn (7)	93
419	(9)	5430-2	RETALIATOR 12 (F) (P Ward) M Bell 7-13	P Fitzsimons (7)	95
420	(8)	004-	VICTORIOUS 191 (T Staunton) B McMahon 7-10	P Fessey	76

Long handicap: Victorious 7-8.

BETTING: 4-1 Franco Mina, 8-1 Billy McCaw, Retaliator, 10-1 Calcutta, Gauntlet, 14-1 Maple, Bodfari Quarry, 16-1 Adelphi Boy, Black Silk, Colonel Mustard, Tomoe Gozen, Tough Guy, 20-1 others.

1998: JILA 9-0 R Hills (13-2 fav) R Armstrong 21 ran

Franco Mina caught a number of eyes when fourth to Kentucky Bullet on his return at Doncaster (7f) — staying on stoutly having been short of room at a crucial stage. He could well make amends but, in a highly competitive contest, TOMOE GOZEN is given the nod. He shaped with plenty of promise when runner-up to Black Amber here (6f) on his debut when Hadleigh (7lb worse off) was 9¼l back in fifth. Although failing to repeat that form in two subsequent starts, he is potentially leniently treated on his handicap debut. Maple and Tough Guy are more obvious contenders but their consistency last season is reflected by their handicap marks. This trip may stretch the stamina of Champagne Rider, Calcutta, Billy McCaw and Blue Star but, in contrast, it looks a bare minimum for Route Sixty Six. Front-running Colonel Mustard would have claims if reproducing the form he showed when making all at Lingfield in August, while Victorious, capable of better than he showed last season, is not out of the equation off his low weight. Gauntlet was no match for Nouf at Doncaster last month and, like Casimir and Adelphi Boy, looks vulnerable to less exposed rivals.

4.15 STETCHWORTH MAIDEN STAKES (3-Y-O: £4,468: 6f) (11 runners)

No	Draw	Form	Horse	Jockey	Rating
501	(6)		CRAGGY MOUNTAIN (Gainsborough Stud Management) B Hills 9-0	M Hills	–
502	(10)		HEROIC BLUE (Adrian F Nolan & Mrs J M Ryan) J Noseda 9-0	Pat Eddery	–
503	(2)		ISTINTAJ (H al-Maktoum) M Tregoning 9-0	R Hills	–
504	(3)	0-	LIONHEARTED 165 (Sheikh Mohammed) J Gosden 9-0	L Dettori	61
505	(1)	3-	RAIN RAIN GO AWAY 167 (M al-Maktoum) E Dunlop 9-0	K Fallon	59
506	(8)		ROYAL ARTIST (T Hirschfeld) W Haggas 9-0	P Robinson	–
507	(11)	4-	SARTORIAL 165 (Mrs G Marchant) P Makin 9-0	D Holland	77
508	(7)	26	SUSAN'S PRIDE 10 (Mrs S Roy) B Meehan 9-0	W J O'Connor	79
509	(9)	0-	WATERFRONT 280 (R Sangster & A Collins) P Chapple-Hyam 9-0	J Fortune	■
510	(4)	6	AMBER BROWN 17 (Mrs P Brown) K Ivory 8-9	G Duffield	59
511	(5)	6-	DALAAUNA 165 (Nabil Mourad) J Gosden 8-9	G Hind	64

BETTING: 4-1 Rain Rain Go Away, 5-1 Craggy Mountain, Waterfront, 13-2 Lionhearted, 7-1 Heroic Blue, 8-1 others.

1998: CARIBBEAN MONARCH 9-0 W R Swinburn (14-1) Sir M Stoute 16 ran

Waterfront was quietly fancied on his debut here in July (7f) in a race won by Nimello but faded in the closing stages after setting a strong pace. Sartorial (4th) and Lionhearted (9th) both showed ability behind Flavian over course and distance in October, while Rain Rain Go Away, easy to back when around 8l third to Ballet Master at Yarmouth in October, represents a stable that has already struck form this season. Susan's Pride had Amber Brown back in sixth when chasing home Present Laughter on his debut at Warwick and then finished a close-up sixth, of seven, to Inya Lake in the Field Marshal Stakes at Haydock (5f). The four newcomers are all worth noting in the market — particularly HEROIC BLUE. This son of Known Fact has been working encouragingly on the home gallops with Wannabe Grand, the stable's 1,000 Guineas hope, and can score at the first time of asking. Istintaj is a Nureyev colt who is a half-brother to group two winner Asfurah.

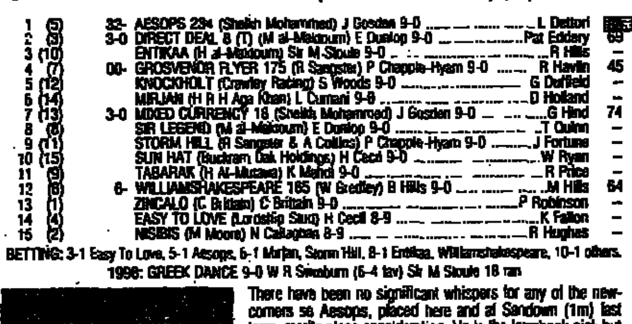
4.45 BOADICEA CONDITIONS STAKES (3-Y-O: £5,647: 7f) (7 runners)

No	Draw	Form	Horse	Jockey	Rating
601	(2)	01-	ETTRICK 158 (D,S) (Lord Hartington) A Stewart 9-1	L Dettori	87
602	(6)	52214-	SPORTING LAD 172 (D,G) (M Arbib) P Cole 9-1	T Quinn	■
603	(1)	51-	BAHAMIAN BANDIT 217 (S) (Lucayan Stud) R Hannon 8-11	K Fallon	100
604	(5)	54-	WORLD ALERT 196 (R Sangster & A Collins) P Chapple-Hyam 8-11	J Fortune	70
605	(7)	132-	INTIMAA 199 (F) (H al-Maktoum) P Walwyn 8-10	R Hills	98
606	(4)	2-1	SHAROURA 17 (S) (S Alsalary) K Mahdi 8-10	J Quinn	73
607	(3)	31-	ROUGE ETOILE 175 (S) (Astaire & Partners) A McNae 8-6	Dane O'Neill	75

BETTING: 11-4 Intimaa, 3-1 Bahamian Bandit, 4-1 Ettrick, 5-1 Sporting Lad, World Alert, 16-1 others.

1998: DARING DEREK 9-1 K Fallon (1-2 fav) D Loder (Fr) 3 ran

Intimaa, who has spent the winter in Dubai, is unlikely to lack anything in condition but her form last season was nothing out of the ordinary and the one to beat looks to be BAHAMIAN BANDIT. He shaped pleasingly on fast ground over course and distance on his debut (when around 3l fifth to Mujahid) before thrashing 17 rivals at Lingfield (6f) in September. Ettrick looked one to follow when seeing off 19 rivals in pleasing style at Doncaster in November although he has yet to race on a sound surface — a remark that applies to Rouge Etoile, who stayed on strongly to win at Folkestone (6f) in October. Sporting Lad, whose only win from five starts last term came at Chester, and World Alert, no excuses when beaten at Ascot or Newmarket, will probably need to show improvement, while Sharoura has more to do than when beating Northern Spring a neck at Doncaster (6f) last month.



5.20 MUSEUM MAIDEN STAKES (3-Y-O: £4,500: 1m 2f) (15)

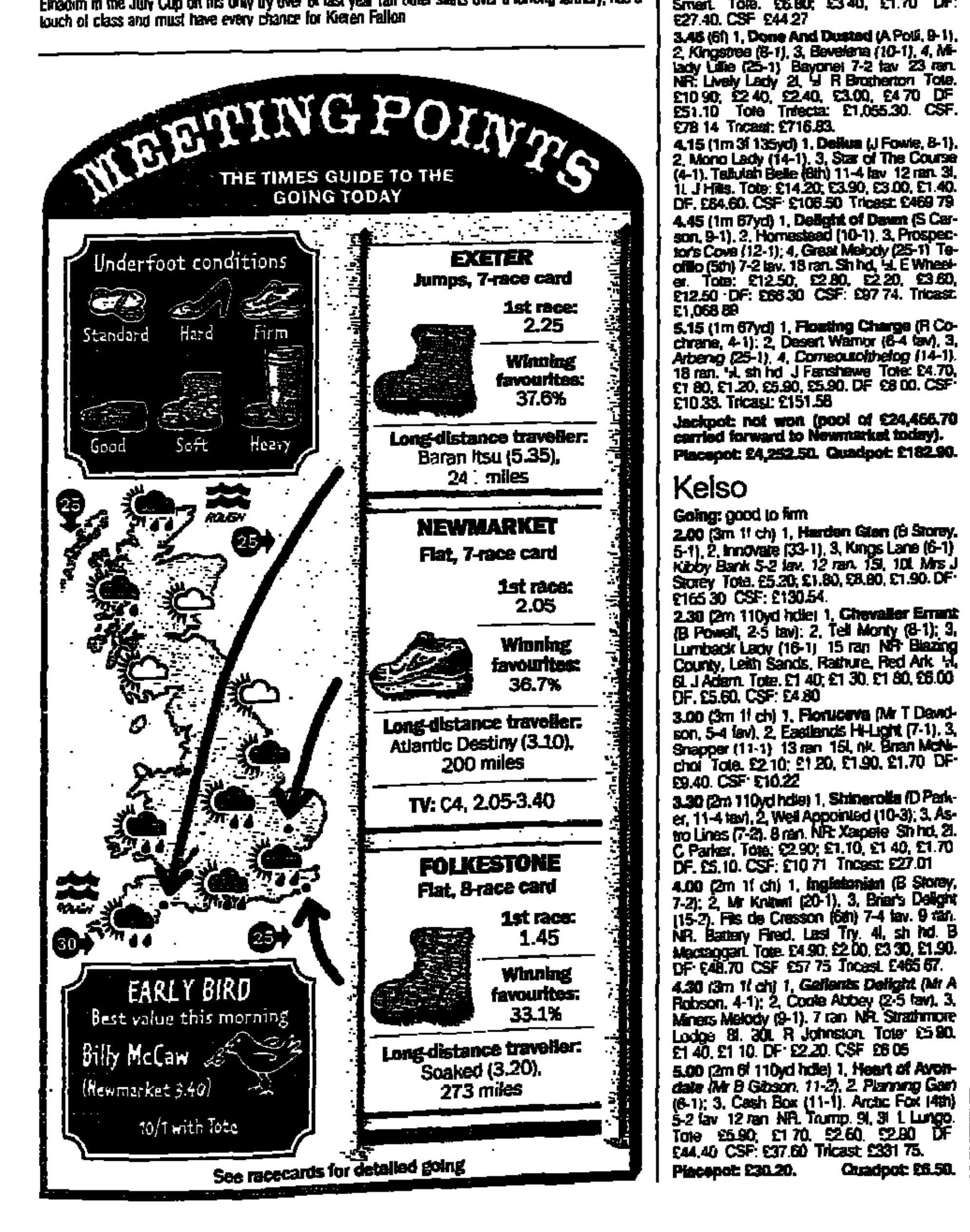
No	Draw	Form	Horse	Jockey	Rating
1	(5)	32-	AESOPS 234 (Sheikh Mohammed) J Gosden 9-0	L Dettori	■
2	(3)	3-0	DIRECT DEAL 8 (T) (M al-Maktoum) E Dunlop 9-0	Pat Eddery	69
3	(10)		ENTIKAA (H al-Maktoum) Sir M Stoute 9-0	R Hills	–
4	(7)	00-	GROSVENOR FLYER 175 (R Sangster) P Chapple-Hyam 9-0	R Havlin	45
5	(12)		KNOCKHOLT (Crawley Racing) S Woods 9-0	G Duffield	–
6	(14)		MIRJAN (H R H Aga Khan) L Cumani 9-0	D Holland	–
7	(13)	3-0	MIXED CURRENCY 18 (Sheikh Mohammed) J Gosden 9-0	G Hind	74
8	(8)		SIR LEGEND (M al-Maktoum) E Dunlop 9-0	T Quinn	–
9	(11)		STORM HILL (R Sangster & A Collins) P Chapple-Hyam 9-0	J Fortune	–
10	(15)		SUN HAT (Buckram Oak Holdings) H Cecil 9-0	W Ryan	–
11	(9)		TABARAK (H Al-Mucawa) K Mahdi 9-0	R Price	–
12	(6)	6-	WILLIAMSHAKESPEARE 165 (W Gredley) B Hills 9-0	M Hills	64
13	(1)		ZINCALO (C Brittain) C Brittain 9-0	P Robinson	–
14	(4)		EASY TO LOVE (Lordship Stud) H Cecil 8-9	K Fallon	–
15	(2)		NISIBIS (M Moore) N Callaghan 8-9	R Hughes	–

BETTING: 3-1 Easy To Love, 5-1 Aesops, 6-1 Mirjan, Storm Hill, 8-1 Entikaa, Williamshakespeare, 10-1 others.

1998: GREEK DANCE 9-0 W R Swinburn (6-4 fav) Sir M Stoute 18 ran

There have been no significant whispers for any of the newcomers so Aesops, placed here and at Sandown (1m) last term, merits close consideration. He is the formbook pick but WILLIAMSHAKESPEARE can have the last word. He shaped promisingly here in October (1m) when given a gentle introduction behind Lightning Arrow over an inadequate trip and, being a full brother to User Friendly, the Oaks and St Leger winner, will appreciate the extra two furlongs he encounters today.

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Exeter: 2.25 Northern Drums. 2.55 Labula Bay. 4.05 Garrison Friendly, Gallant Taffy, Bells Wood. **Folkestone:** 3.20 Polar Mist.



See racecards for detailed going

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Windsor

Going: good

2.15 (5f 10yd) 1, Optimaite (T Sprake, 7-2 fav), 2, Anstar (7-1); 3, Commonwood (25-1). 17 ran. [illegible]

[illegible]

Kelso

Going: good to firm

[illegible]

FOLKESTONE

ROB WRIGHT

1.45 Full Spate
2.15 Step On Degas
2.45 Grecian Tale
3.20 Allmaites
3.55 Desert Duke
4.25 Hastate
4.55 Rose Bay
5.30 *Final Trial*

GOING: GOOD TO SOFT (GOOD IN PLACES) — SIS
DRAW: 5F-6F, LOW NUMBERS BEST

1.45 PRIVY COUNCILLOR MAIDEN STAKES

(Div I: £3,480: 7f) (10 runners)

No	Draw	Form	Horse	Jockey	Rating
1	(8)		BALI-STAR M J Weeden 4-9-10	F Norton	–
2	(1)	34-5	FULL SPATE 15 J Bradley 4-9-10	S Drowne	■
3	(4)	504-	CELESTIAL BAY 183 E Wheeler 4-9-5	S Carson (5)	58
4	(3)	500-	PUSSY GALORE 173 D Elsworth 4-9-5	A Daly (3)	75
5	(5)		WARS J Banks 4-9-5	S Sanders	–
6	(9)	0-0	EMBATTLE 13 M Channon 3-8-10	A Mackay	32
7	(7)	0-0	GREEN GOD 19 M Heaton-Ellis 3-8-10	A Clark	37
8	(6)	60-	OCEAN PRINCE 180 W Muir 3-8-10	Martin Dwyer	54
9	(10)	0	BIRCH GROVE 15 W Musson 3-8-5	S Curtis (7)	–
10	(2)	5	SAMIYAH 13 (T) Miss I Foustok 3-8-5	G Carter	65

3-1 Samiyah, 9-2 Pussy Galore, 5-1 Full Spate, Wars, 8-1 others.

2.15 LEVY APPRENTICES HANDICAP (£1,857: 6f) (16)

No	Draw	Form	Horse	Jockey	Rating
1	(5)	050-	POLISH SPIRIT 181 (G) B Millman 4-10-0	Cheryl Nosworthy (8)	65
2	(13)	560-	TINKER OSMASTON 218 (D,S) R Hodges 8-9-11	J Savage	■
3	(8)	0005	MISS DANGEROUS 17 (C,D,S) M Quinn 4-9-10	Emily Joyce (3)	80
4	(15)	-030	STEP ON DEGAS 17 (F) Mrs A King 6-9-10	W Hutchinson	88
5	(9)	35-0	MISS MONEY SPIDER 17 (S) J Bradley 4-9-7	D Hayden	88

[illegible]

2.45 CHATHAM STAKES (3-Y-O: £2,219: 5f) (13)

[illegible]

3.20 GILLINGHAM STAKES (£2,856: 5f) (9)

[illegible]

3.55 PRIVY COUNCILLOR MAIDEN STAKES

(Div II: £3,446: 7f) (10)

No	Draw	Form	Horse	Jockey	Rating
1	(8)	34-	*DALI 169 B Meehan 4-9-10*	*D McKeown*	56
2	(5)	306/	REWARD 8J D Williams 5-9-10	D Griffiths	–
3	(1)	/20-	SWING ALONG 328 C Wall 4-9-5	S Sanders	90
4	(3)	0-0	WHITE VALLEY 8 S Dow 4-9-5	P Doe (3)	25
5	(9)	33-	DESERT DUKE 179 (BF) Sir M Stoute 3-8-10	K Darley	■
6	(10)		MR PERRY J S Moore 3-8-10	P P Murphy (3)	–
7	(2)	433-	MUKASOL 168 (BF) L Cumani 3-8-10	R Ffrench	65
8	(7)	53-	REGAL EXIT 185 M Bell 3-8-10	M Fenton	74
9	(6)	42-	AWWALIYA 180 (BF) P Walwyn 3-8-5	T Sprake	84
10	(4)		LUVADUCK M Heaton-Ellis 3-8-5	S Drowne	–

10-11 Desert Duke, 9-2 Mukasol, 5-1 Regal Exit, 8-1 Awwaliya, 10-1 Swing Along, 25-1 White Valley, Luvaduck, 33-1 others.

4.25 GRAVESEND HANDICAP (£3,150: 1m 7f) (16)

No	Draw	Form	Horse	Jockey	Rating
1	(12)	40/0	WESTERN CHIEF 42 (G,S) D Williams 5-10-0	D Griffiths	53
2	(15)	0-68	STAR MANAGER 53J (G,S) R Spicer 9-9-12	S Carson (5)	80
3	(6)	043-	DURHAM 10J (B,F,G) G L Moore 8-9-9	J Carroll	75
4	(3)	244-	DOC RYAN'S 38J (B,S) M Ryan 5-9-7	P McCabe	78
5	(13)	650-	BEAUCHAMP MAGIC 189 G A Butler 4-9-6	K Darley	53
6	(8)	120-	SHINING DANCER 186 (F,G) S Dow 7-8-13	P Doe (3)	65
7	(16)	00-0	IMPREVUE 16J (S) R O'Sullivan 5-8-12	S Sanders	–
8	(9)	01-0	HASTATE 8 (C,F) W Jarvis 4-8-11	M Tebbutt	69
9	(5)	200-	ILLUMINATE 29J D O'Brien 6-8-10	G Carter	41
10	(10)	55/0	TUKANO 25J (T,S) J Jenkins 8-8-10	A Culhane	38
11	(14)	2123	PADAUK 42 (B) M Haynes 5-8-8	F Norton	84
12	(2)	6/2-	*PRIVATE FIXTURE 452 (G) D Marks 8-8-8*	*R Painter*	–
13	(1)	3806	PHILOSOPHIC 13J (CD,F) Mrs L Jewell 5-8-7	R Ffrench	■
14	(7)	-060	CHILDREN'S CHOICE 12 (C,S) J Pearce 8-8-6	A Polli (3)	70
15	(11)	0/0-	WONTCOSTALOTBUT 13J M Wilkinson 5-8-5	S Whitworth	–
16	(4)	00-3	WINGED GREYBIRD 91 (T) Miss A N-Smith 5-8-4	J Lowe	55

9-2 Illuminate, 11-2 Shining Dancer, 6-1 Doc Ryan's, 13-2 Beauchamp Magic, 7-1 Durham, Padauk, 12-1 Hastate, 14-1 others.

4.55 DARTFORD MAIDEN FILLIES STAKES

(£3,834: 1m 4f) (12)

No	Draw	Form	Horse	Jockey	Rating
1	(4)	233-	*APRIL STOCK 157 Miss G Kelleway 4-9-10*	S Sanders	■
2	(8)		DOUBLE IDENTITY T D McCarthy 4-9-10	S Whitworth	–
3	(5)	/06-	DUDEEN 10J T McGovern 4-9-10	A Nicholls (5)	–
4	(6)	00-	ST HILARY 263 Mrs A Perrett 4-9-10	J Tate	–
5	(10)	0563	TAZKIYA 40 (V) R Ingram 4-9-10	A Clark	41
6	(1)	080-	AMAD'S PRINCESS 191 W G M Turner 3-8-4	D Sweeney	–
7	(11)	5-0	DRAMATIC SCENES 8 J S Moore 3-8-4	P P Murphy (3)	31
8	(7)		INDUNA S Dow 3-8-4	P Doe (3)	–
9	(2)	0-	PACAERA 180 (T) J Dunlop 3-8-4	G Carter	33
10	(9)	30-0	QUICKSTEP 10 R Hannon 3-8-4	J Carroll	86
11	(12)	0-	RAVENWOOD LADY 183 S C Williams 3-8-4	S Drowne	49
12	(3)	0-	ROSE BAY 183 C Brittain 3-8-4	T Sprake	55

7-4 April Stock, 9-4 Pacaera, 7-2 Quickstep, 12-1 Induna, 14-1 Tazkiya, 25-1 Double Identity, Dramatic Scenes, Rose Bay, 33-1 others

5.30 BILSINGTON HANDICAP

(£3,077: 1m 1f 149yd) (15)

No	Draw	Form	Horse	Jockey	Rating
1	(6)	-000	RITUAL 42 S Dow 4-10-0	P Doe (3)	55
2	(14)	535-	PADDY McGOON 288 D Elsworth 4-9-13	A Daly (3)	68
3	(15)	000-	SWEET REWARD 157 (S) J S-Osbourne 4-9-10	M Fenton	■
4	(2)	-000	LA PETITE FLAMECHE 10J R O'Sullivan 4-9-7	S Sanders	65
5	(11)	080-	FINAL TRIAL 197 G Wragg 5-9-6	A Clark	61
6	(5)	6/0-	BEVIER 333 (F) W Jarvis 5-9-4	M Tebbutt	–
7	(9)	2183	ZAHA 12 J Pearce 4-9-4	A Polli (3)	68
8	(1)	04-0	U K MAGIC 34 J Jenkins 4-9-2	A Culhane	48
9	(4)	-410	NAKED OAT 38 B Smart 4-9-2	P Goode (5)	85
10	(10)	5405	BURNING 48 (D,F) N Littmoden 7-9-1	T G McLaughlin	85
11	(13)	-010	FAR-SO-LA 77 (C,F) Mrs L Jewell 4-8-8	K Darley	75
12	(8)	60-0	YOUNG MAZAAD 13 (B,C,F) D O'Brien 6-8-7	G Bardwell	80
13	(12)	435-	LUCKY ME 172 P Butler 4-8-5	P P Murphy (3)	75
14	(7)	500-	*FOXES TAIL 8J (F,G) R Hodges 5-8-4*	*S Drowne*	77
15	(3)	280-	CABCHARGE BLUE 123 (C,D,F,S) T Naughton 7-8-4	A Nicholls (5)	70

7-2 Zaha, 6-1 Final Trial, 7-1 Naked Oat, 8-1 Far-So-La, 10-1 Paddy McGoon, Young Mazaad, Foxes Tail, 12-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: Sir M Stoute, 3 winners from 7 runners, 42.9%; L Cumani, 3 from 10, 30.0%; M Heaton-Ellis, 5 from 18, 27.8%; J Dunlop, 12 from 47, 25.5%; L Montague Hall, 3 from 12, 25.0%; P Walwyn, 6 from 24, 25.0%; D Elsworth, 6 from 29, 20.7%; W Muir, 9 from 46, 19.6%.

JOCKEYS: K Darley, 4 winners from 19 rides, 21.1%; J Lowe, 3 from 18, 16.7%; F Norton, 5 from 32, 15.6%; J Tate, 3 from 21, 14.3%; T Sprake, 13 [illegible]

SPECIALISTS

NEWMARKET: Trainers: H Cecil, 24 winners from 95 runners, 25.3%; J Gosden, 21 from 118, 17.8%; J Dunlop, 21 from 120, 17.5%; B Hanbury, 11 from 67, 16.4%; A Stewart, 5 from 31, 16.1%. **Jockeys:** K Fallon, 20 winners from 79 rides, 25.3%; R Hills, 26 from 106, 24.5%; J Quinn, 10 from 48, 20.8%; L Dettori, 33 from 161, 20.5%; Pat Eddery, 35 from 172, 20.3%.

EXETER: Trainers: P Hobbs, 32 winners from 128 runners, 25.0%; M Pipe, 60 from 249, 24.1%; Mrs M Jones, 3 from 13, 23.1%; Miss H Knight, 27 from 121, 22.3%; P Nicholls, 7 from 34, 20.6%. **Jockeys:** D Byrne, 3 winners from 3 rides, 100%; R Dunwoody, 31 from 90, 34.4%; R Widger, 4 from 13, 30.8%; L Aspell, 4 from 15, 26.7%; A Bates, 3 from 12, 25.0%.





FOR FIRST TIME TELEPHONE CALLERS STAKING £40 OR MORE TODAY, USING SWITCH, SOLO OR DELTA BANK OR BUILDING SOCIETY DEBIT CARDS.

WILLIAM HILL HANDICAP

7 furlongs, Newmarket, 3.40pm, Live on CH4 TV.

Odds	Horse	Odds	Horse
9/2	Franco Mina	16/1	Tough Guy
9/1	Billy McCaw	18/1	Adelphi Boy
9/1	Calcutta	20/1	Bodfari Quarry
9/1	Gauntlet	20/1	Casimir
9/1	Retaliator	20/1	Red Delirium
12/1	Colonel Mustard	20/1	Route Sixty Six
14/1	Black Silk	22/1	Champagne Rider
14/1	Tomoe Gozen	25/1	Blue Star
16/1	Hadleigh	25/1	Santandre
16/1	Maple	33/1	Victorious

Each way One Quarter the odds a place 1, 2, 3, 4. Prices subject to fluctuation. Available up to 3.25pm. Tattersalls Rule 4(c) may apply. Non runner - no bet.

LATEST WILLIAM HILL ODDS ON TELETEXT CH4 P601/602/603

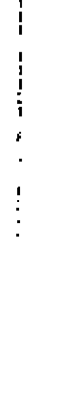
RING NOW BET NOW 0800 44 40 40

(Minimum total investment per call £10. Over 18's only.)

*Free bet is a £25 Straight Forecast on the Newmarket 3.40pm today. (Please place your bet and make your free bet selection within the same call.)



TO OPEN A CREDIT ACCOUNT FREEPHONE 0800 289 892. WILLIAM HILL RULES APPLY. PRICES SUBJECT TO FLUCTUATION.





Ricard scores the goal that gave Middlesbrough the lead against Charlton. The Colombia striker also set up the second goal for Mustoe. Photograph: Stu Forster/Allsport

Ricard and Campbell work their magic charms

With most FA Carling Premiership teams having played two matches since Easter Monday, there have been some big scores achieved this week by the leading Fantasy League managers. In all, 28 teams scored 35 points or more, with the weekly winner, Silver Charm, selected by Wee Tieng Lee, of Singapore, scoring 45, four points ahead of the nearest challenger.

Silver Charm was entered for *The Times* Fantasy League late last month, with the express aim of claiming one of the prizes of £500 plus £100 worth of sports equipment. "I didn't see any chance of getting in the top 100, so I entered some teams to try to win a weekly or even a monthly prize," Wee, 31, who works in environment management, said. "I tailored my teams to the fixtures, but I'm still surprised that I won it."

He is too modest: the performance of his team proves how cleverly he chose his initial XI, and how wisely he used the transfers at his disposal. His two top scorers were transferred in after only five days of the month at just the right time to take advantage of good opportunities to shine.

Kevin Campbell, brought in from Trabzonspor, of Turkey, by Walter Smith, the Everton manager, in what some saw as a desperate last throw of the dice, earned Wee eight points over the two games he played for his new club last week. "I heard the news that he was coming to Everton," Wee said. "I'd seen him play before, and my feeling was that he was going to score for Everton. And he got two goals on Sunday."

An even better hunch was the one that brought in Hamilton Ricard, of Middlesbrough, to replace Jimmy Floyd Hasselbaink, of Leeds United. "Ricard is really hitting form," Wee explained. "Middlesbrough had two home games and have a good home record." Put like that, it sounds so simple.



Ricard's revelatory form is certainly noteworthy. At times last season, he looked completely out of place and out of form as Middlesbrough seemed to score goals despite, rather than because of, the Colombian. This season, however, with Brian Deane as his regular partner instead of Mikkel Beck, he has delighted the crowds at the Riverside Stadium, scoring 15 goals so far. Against Charlton Athletic on Saturday, he gave his team the lead and set up the second goal for Robbie Mustoe. Two goals against Wimbledon on Easter Monday gave him 11 points for the week.

Other Silver Charm scorers included Benito Carbone (6 points), Steve Guppy (6), Colin Cooper (5), Temuri Ketsbaia (3), Scott Minto (3) and David Seaman (3). Wee is a supporter of Liverpool, but any loyalty he felt to his favourites took second place to the demands of Fantasy League success, and he resisted the temptation to select any Anfield-based players. "I see that they are not doing that well," he said.

☐ Even if your team's performance was disappointing, you can still be a prizewinner. If your team total, based on the player lists (right), comes to 5 or 8, follow the instructions below and you could win this week's ON-Target prize of £500.

☐ For legal reasons, *The Times* Fantasy League is no longer able to accept entries from players under 18 years of age. Players 17 and under already entered in the main and youth leagues will, however, be allowed to remain in the competitions.

Value hunters cannot ignore Arsenal

It is often a contentious issue for managers in *The Times* Fantasy League: which positions can make or break your Fantasy team?

The headlines in Fantasy League, as in football in general, tend to go to the strikers — after all, they are generally the players who score the most points. But if the issue is viewed in terms of value for money, there are some surprising results.

Top of the list for value is Martin Keown, the Arsenal centre back, who has contributed 55 points to all those managers who were willing to spend £4.1 million on his services. His team-mate, Lee Dixon, is second, with David Seaman, Tony Adams and Nigel Winterburn also among the top dozen, proving that Arsenal are value for money. In fact, the top 12 in the bargain bucket are all goalkeepers or defenders. Michael Ball, of Everton, Ian Harte, of Leeds United, and Steve Guppy, of Leicester City, have all proved to be excellent value.

Dwight Yorke is the best-value striker available, followed by Jimmy Floyd Hasselbaink and Hamilton Ricard. In retrospect, £10.5 million spent on Michael Owen now seems to have been too much, but still looks better value than the £10.1 million for Alan Shearer. However, perhaps a thought should be spared for all those managers owning a certain Stanley Collymore, with each of the Aston Villa player's points having cost a hefty £1.14 million.

It has been a poor season for midfield players, and it is Harry Kewell, of Leeds, who tops the value-for-money table in this department. With the likes of David Beckham and Matt Le Tissier underperforming in relation to previous seasons, it is in Benito Carbone and Ray Parlour that the value has lain.

MATT SIMS

TRANSFER LINE

Want to make one of your 12 transfers? Call
0640 62 51 03
(ex-UK +44 870 901 4293)
0640 calls cost 60p per minute
Ex UK calls charged at national rates

FANTASY LEAGUE LEADERBOARD

Pos	Manager	Team	Pts
1	Phil Clarke	Shabadi United	374
2	Nicholas Keighley	These Eat Beans	368
3	Mark Coles	Joe Public	365
4	Phil Tusler	Peter 7	362
4	James Kerr	Serious Squad	362
6	Mike Shipley	Minor Threat	360
7	Brian Payne	Cosmopolitan III	359
7	Sarabjot Kohli	Junglemen	359
9	Robert Little	Broken Arrow	358
10	Matthew O'Neil	The M Team	354
11	Phil Tusler	Pin-Ups 7	352
12	Mike Shipley	Minor Threat 15	351
13	Sarosh Daruwala	Scorch	350
14	Richard Deane	On The Wagon	349
15	David Edmondson	Edmo Utd Mington	348
15	Michael Matejtschuk	Bandidos Darsane	348
17	David Young	Dave 10	347
17	Thomas Bailey	Rural Raiders	347
17	David Wise	Walsall Reserves	347
20	Robin Harrington	Chequers Champs	346
20	Peter Leathem	Spike Town	346
22	David Tilley	Tilley FC	345
22	David Mead	In The City	345
22	Stephen Beales	Croft Rangers	345
25	Jason Wynne	Taffy's Terrors	343
25	Gordon Crutchley	Super Saddlers B	343
25	Jennifer Cockburn	Yeah Right!	343
28	Darren Sawyer	Finchleyallstars	342
28	Scott Brett	Scotts Stars	342
28	Terry Bullen	El Tel's Revenge	342
28	Tony Fidler	Real Dataman	342
32	Raymond George	Razor D	341
32	Rajiv Kothari	Milleniumbuggers	341
34	Lucy Crosthwaite	I Hate Football	340
34	Jwalant Popat	Popat's Army	340
36	Steven Walls	Team Stevo	339
36	Jo Tinning-Clowes	The Future's Red	339
36	Nathan Carroll	Nath's Champs	339
36	John Lofthouse	Solid At The Bac	339
40	Philip Morton	Skill Vanill	338
40	John Humphreys	Academicals	338
40	Michael Scalfe	Allidoiswash&go	338
40	L Samuels	Spartak Mossley	338
44	James Inglis	Pride O The Rock	337
44	Colin Head	Headstart Gunard	337
44	John Miner	Melodymaker	337
44	Carol Flint	The Baggage Boys	337
44	Matthew Watson	Matts Magic	337
44	Tim Gardner	Harchester Who?	337
50	Mark Scrowston	Harold's Crossers	336
50	Henrietta Ball	Henri & Goals UU	336
50	Tom Summers	Ganichou	336

YOUTH LEAGUE LEADERS

Pos	Manager	Team	Pts
1	Sarabjot Kohli	Junglemen	359
2	Matthew O'Neil	The M Team	354
3	Jwalant Popat	Popat's Army	340
4	Matthew Watson	Matts Magic	337
5	Henrietta Ball	Henri & Goals UU	336
5	Tom Summers	Ganichou	336
7	Robert Anderson	Robert's Rovers	335
8	Stephen Bailey	Stevie's Wonders	328
9	Stuart Rutter	Spitonthevilla	327
10	Matthew Giles	Rowstock Rovers	325

Are you on target to win £500?

Congratulations to Sarah Harvey, of Northwood, Middlesex, the main winner of ON-Target from last week. Even if you do not have a Fantasy League team, you can enter this new game now — or enter a new one simply for ON-Target. All managers have the chance to win a share of £28,000 of new prizes. *The Times* has teamed up with EA Sports to offer you the chance to own the renowned Fifa 99 game. Every week you could win:

- 1st prize: £500 plus EA Sports Pack
- 4 runners-up: EA Sports Packs
- 10 additional runners-up: Fifa 99 CD-Rom.

Each EA Sports Pack contains: Fifa 99 for the PlayStation; Fifa 99 for the PC; EA Sports T-Shirt, keyring and mini football plus a record bag.

If you already have a team in the main game, you are ready to play ON-Target. Simply check your Fantasy League players' score each week and see if their total is the same as our ON-Target score. If you have scored the exact target points, a quick call to our ON-Target winners' line will put you in the draw to win one of the 15 prizes. You can enter at any time and there is no limit to how many teams you can enter.

HOW TO ENTER: Look up your players' weekly point scores opposite and add them up, or call the checkline 0640 625 102. If your total score for this week matches the ON-Target number(s), then call our claim line on **0870 901 4270** (calls, charged at national rate, should last about a minute). Claims must be made before midnight on Sunday. The lines then close until the next game starts on Tuesday morning.

If you have scored the correct number of points AND called the claim line, you go into the draw. Just look in the paper the following Tuesday to see if you have won.

Managers with the correct points who have *not* called the claim line will not be entered. Calls that are incomplete, inaudible or invalid will not be entered. All teams in the draw must conform to the main game rules.

Last week's winners

Sarah Harvey, of Northwood, Middlesex (£500 plus EA Sports Pack); **Mr L Carlagrove**, of Barry, South Glamorgan; **Barry Topler**, of Chester-le-Street, Co Durham; **Mr D Blendell**, of Plymouth; **Clive Pilcher**, of Harlow, Essex (EA Sports Packs); **Christine Bennet**, of Dorchester; **Ian Calan**, of Wallington, Surrey; **Richard Curtis**, of Winchester; **Winne Evans**, of Shrewsbury; **Jeff King**, of Luton; **Mark Clark**, of Southall, Middlesex; **Mr D Walker**, of Kendal; **David Bonus**, of Halifax; **Simon Kinglet**, of Hull; **Christopher Self**, of Leatherhead (Fifa 99 CD-Roms).

THIS WEEK'S ON-TARGET SCORE

Has your team scored...

5 or 8

points?

Check your total, then ring

0870 901 4270

(ex-UK +44 870 901 4270)

Calls charged at national rates

FANTASY LEAGUE SERVICES

Use these numbers for all the information you need:

CHECKLINE
To check your team's standing
0640 625 102
(ex-UK +44 870 901 4292)

TRANSFER LINE
To alter your team
0640 625 103
(ex-UK +44 870 901 4293)
0640 calls cost 60p per minute (ex UK numbers charge at national rates)

FAXBACK
A comprehensive update sheet
0991 123 720
(ex-UK +44 870 901 4280)

SUPER LEAGUE FAXBACK
A brand new service
0991 123 721
(ex-UK +44 870 901 4279)
Faxbacks cost £1 per minute (ex UK numbers charged at national rates)

HELPLINE
for any queries
01582 702720

All information provided by Fantasy League Ltd®
@Fantasy League Ltd
Promoter: News International Ltd, PO Box 495, Virginia Street, London E1 9XY

CHOOSE YOUR PLAYERS FROM HERE

Columns show: code, name, club, weekly points, total points, valuation(m).

GOALKEEPERS

Code	Name	Club	Wk	Tot	Val
102	D Seaman	ARS	3	43	3.7
146	A Manninger	ARS	0	12	3.4
139	M Bosnich	AST	-1	14	3.2
140	M Oakes	AST	0	1	2.9
144	A Rachel	AST	0	-1	2.6
108	J Filan	BLA	0	-4	2.8
126	A Fettis	BLA	0	6	2.5
127	T Flowers	BLA	0	-3	3.1
104	S Ilic	CHA	0	-11	2.3
105	M Salmon	CHA	0	0	2.2
106	A Petterson	CHA	0	-1	2.2
134	S Royce	CHA	0	10	2.2
137	D Kharine	CHE	0	0	2.9
138	E De Goey	CHE	0	32	3.2
145	K Hitchcock	CHE	0	1	2.6
107	S Ogrizovic	COV	0	-1	2.4
117	M Hedman	COV	2	-2	2.6
103	R Hoult	DER	1	2	2.3
153	M Poom	DER	0	6	2.5
112	P Gerrard	EVE	0	0	2.4
114	S Simonsen	EVE	0	0	2.7
118	T Myhre	EVE	2	17	2.6
113	N Martyn	LEE	0	20	3.1
125	P Robinson	LEE	0	4	2.7
123	K Keller	LEI	2	10	2.9
124	P Arphexad	LEI	0	1	2.8
122	B Friedel	LIV	0	-1	3.3
131	D James	LIV	-1	1	3.3
116	P Schmeichel	MAN	0	14	4.0
121	R Van Der Gouw	MAN	0	4	3.5
109	M Schwarzer	MID	3	17	2.7
110	B Roberts	MID	0	0	2.4
111	M Beresford	MID	0	-3	2.5
141	S Given	NEW	0	6	3.0
142	L Perez	NEW	0	0	2.7
143	S Harper	NEW	0	2	2.5
119	D Beasant	NOT	0	-24	2.7
120	M Crossley	NOT	-1	0	2.6
136	K Pressman	SHE	0	7	2.5
149	M Clarke	SHE	0	0	2.2
150	P Srnicek	SHE	0	4	2.3
147	N Moss	SOU	-2	-1	2.2
148	P Jones	SOU	0	-6	2.4
128	I Walker	TOT	0	14	2.8
154	H Segers	TOT	0	0	2.4
155	E Baardsen	TOT	0	3	2.6
129	C Forrest	WES	0	0	2.5
130	S Hislop	WES	3	14	2.7
132	N Sullivan	WIM	-3	-6	2.5
135	P Heald	WIM	0	0	2.3

FULL BACKS

Code	Name	Club	Wk	Tot	Val
203	R Garde	ARS	0	14	3.5
204	L Dixon	ARS	3	50	4.1
205	N Winterburn	ARS	3	38	4.2
260	D Grondin	ARS	0	3	3.4
261	N Vivas	ARS	3	15	3.7
209	A Wright	AST	2	16	3.7
804	M Delaney	AV	0	0	2.8
211	G Croft	BLA	0	0	3.2
248	C Davidson	BLA	0	8	3.1
262	J Kenna	BLA	0	-2	3.5
221	C Powell	CHA	2	8	2.7
240	D Mills	CHA	2	16	2.8
241	M Bowen	CHA	0	0	2.7
242	S Brown	CHA	0	8	2.5
243	A Barness	CHA	0	-2	2.5
803	P Konchesky	CHA	0	3	2.5
210	A Ferrer	CHE	0	28	3.7
212	G Le Saux	CHE	0	22	4.0
215	C Babayaro	CHE	0	32	3.5
216	F Sinclair	CHE	2	11	3.3
217	M Hall	COV	0	0	2.7
219	R Nilsson	COV	0	4	2.9
291	D Burrows	COV	2	-7	2.9
247	I Brightwell	COV	0	0	2.8
287	M Edworthy	COV	0	-2	2.9
223	S Schnoor	DER	3	17	2.8
287	S Elliott	DER	0	0	2.6
295	T Dorigo	DER	0	10	2.8
805	Y Borbokis	DER	0	-4	2.8
249	J O'Kane	EVE	0	0	2.9
256	T Thomas	EVE	0	0	2.7
258	M Ball	EVE	3	33	2.8
271	A Cleland	EVE	0	20	2.9
272	T Phelan	EVE	0	0	2.8
286	M Ward	EVE	0	-3	3.0
802	A Farley	EVE	0	-1	2.6
214	D Granville	LEE	0	5	3.5
224	I Harte	LEE	0	40	3.4
225	D Robertson	LEE	0	0	3.3
226	G Kelly	LEE	0	0	3.9
227	L Sharpe	LEE	0	0	3.6
235	R Ullathorne	LEI	2	13	3.0
237	R Savage	LEI	5	9	3.3
238	S Guppy	LEI	6	39	3.6
228	J McAteer	LIV	0	3	4.2
230	R Jones	LIV	0	0	3.6
232	S I Bjornebye	LIV	0	6	3.8
250	V Heggem	LIV	0	13	3.9
236	D Irwin	MAN	0	24	4.3
283	J Curtis	MAN	0	-1	3.5
284	P Neville	MAN	0	12	4.3
285	G Neville	MAN	0	23	4.5
294	W Brown	MAN	0	2	3.6
252	C Fleming	MID	0	9	3.0
253	V Kinder	MID	0	3	3.0
254	C Harrison	MID	0	3	2.8
255	D Gordon	MID	3	28	3.2
259	G Lombardi	MID	0	0	2.9
266	R Stockdale	MID	3	18	2.8
244	N Solano	NEW	0	28	3.3
246	A Griffin	NEW	1	0	3.2
273	S Watson	NEW	2	15	3.4
274	W Barton	NEW	0	9	3.4
276	L Charvet	NEW	0	6	3.3
280	C Serrant	NEW	0	-1	3.2
281	A Pistone	NEW	0	-3	3.5
298	D Domi	NEW	2	-4	3.3
290	D Lyttle	NOT	0	-5	2.9
291	A Rogers	NOT	1	-7	3.0
292	T Bonalair	NOT	-1	-10	3.1
293	M Louis-Jean	NOT	-1	-1	2.7
801	S Stensaas	NOT	0	4	2.7
202	E Barrett	SHE	0	-1	2.8
268	A Hinchcliffe	SHE	0	27	3.2
269	J Cobian	SHE	0	1	2.8
279	I Nolan	SHE	0	0	2.8
289	L Briscoe	SHE	0	5	2.6
239	J Beresford	SOU	0	0	2.8
263	J Dodd	SOU	-2	7	2.8
288	P Warner	SOU	0	-4	2.5
297	P Colleter	SOU	-1	2	2.6
251	C Wilson	TOT	0	0	3.0
264	S Carr	TOT	2	25	3.1
265	P Tramezzani	TOT	0	-2	3.2
270	J Edinburgh	TOT	0	6	2.9
296	M Taricco	TOT	0	12	3.3
206	S Potts	WES	3	7	3.0
233	S Lazaridis	WES	0	0	3.2
234	A Impey	WES	0	13	3.1
299	S Minto	WES	3	10	3.1
275	D Jupp	WIM	0	-2	2.6
277	B Thatcher	WIM	-3	-3	2.9
278	A Kimble	WIM	0	1	2.9
282	K Cunningham	WIM	-1	0	3.0

CENTRE BACKS

Code	Name	Club	Wk	Tot	Val
305	S Bould	ARS	0	12	3.8
307	T Adams	ARS	3	42	4.4
322	M Keown	ARS	1	55	4.1
337	G Grimandi	ARS	0	8	3.6
347	M Upson	ARS	0	1	3.4
301	U Ehiogu	AST	0	24	3.7
303	G Southgate	AST	2	17	3.6
304	R Scimeca	AST	0	5	3.3
329	G Barry	AST	0	7	3.1
353	S Perez	BLA	0	2	3.3
354	D Peacock	BLA	0	1	3.3
355	S Henchoz	BLA	0	0	3.4
374	M Broomes	BLA	0	-1	2.8
906	M Taylor	BLA	0	0	2.6
308	R Rufus	CHA	4	-3	2.7
309	E Youds	CHA	0	-4	2.6
356	B Lambourde	CHE	0	6	3.4
365	M Desailly	CHE	0	28	3.8
366	M Duberry	CHE	0	14	3.5
370	A Myers	CHE	0	0	3.3
381	F Leboeuf	CHE	0	44	4.2
357	G Breen	COV	2	2	3.0
384	P Williams	COV	2	6	2.9
387	R Shaw	COV	2	2	2.8
389	L Daish	COV	0	0	2.8
903	M Konjic	COV	0	-4	2.7
311	J Laursen	DER	3	9	2.9
312	I Stimac	DER	0	6	3.0
313	R Delap	DER	0	16	2.7
314	H A Carbonari	DER	6	20	3.1
326	C Dailly	DER	0	-1	3.0
306	S Bilic	EVE	0	2	3.1
323	D Unsworth	EVE	-1	20	3.1
324	D Watson	EVE	3	15	2.9
325	C Tiler	EVE	2	14	3.0
327	C Short	EVE	2	5	2.9
328	M Materazzi	EVE	2	13	3.0
349	R Dunne	EVE	0	13	2.7
904	D Weir	EVE	2	-1	2.8
330	L Radebe	LEE	0	24	3.5
331	M Hiden	LEE	0	14	3.4
332	J Woodgate	LEE	0	15	3.2
380	D Wetherall	LEE	0	8	3.6
398	R Molenaar	LEE	0	20	3.4
334	G Taggart	LEI	0	8	3.2
335	P Kaamark	LEI	0	-4	3.3
336	S Walsh	LEI	0	17	3.3
338	M Elliott	LEI	2	30	3.9
339	S Prior	LEI	3	14	3.1
302	S Staunton	LIV	-1	2	4.1
320	P Babb	LIV	0	2	3.7
375	D Matteo	LIV	-1	0	3.6
376	F Kippe	LIV	0	0	3.4
399	B T Kvarme	LIV	0	-1	3.5
902	R Song	LIV	-1	-5	3.8
321	H Berg	MAN	0	7	3.9
388	D May	MAN	0	0	3.9
382	J Stam	MAN	0	19	4.5
383	R Johnsen	MAN	0	20	4.1
339	G Pallister	MID	3	13	3.2
343	G Festa	MID	6	20	3.1
344	S Vickers	MID	0	9	3.0
340	S Pearce	NEW	0	3	3.2
341	S Howey	NEW	0	1	3.3
342	N Dabizas	NEW	0	6	3.4
345	A Hughes	NEW	0	-3	3.0
361	P Albert	NEW	0	4	3.5
346	C Edwards	NOT	-1	-3	2.6
350	C Cooper	NOT	5	17	3.2
351	S Chettle	NOT	-1	-15	3.0
352	J O Hjelde	NOT	0	-15	2.9
371	J Mattsson	NOT	0	-9	2.8
901	C Doig	NOT	0	-3	2.6
905	R Gough	NOT	4	2	2.7
358	P Atherton	SHE	0	16	2.9
360	D Walker	SHE	0	13	2.8
362	D Stefanovic	SHE	0	2	2.7
364	J Newsome	SHE	0	-1	2.8
317	K Monkou	SOU	-2	1	2.7
385	F Benali	SOU	-2	-7	2.7
386	R Dryden	SOU	0	3	2.5
391	C Lundekvam	SOU	-1	-2	2.6
394	S Marshall	SOU	0	-5	2.7
395	S Hiley	SOU	-2	-7	2.5
397	G Monk	SOU	0	-6	2.5
348	C Calderwood	TOT	2	16	3.1
373	J Scales	TOT	0	6	3.0
377	L Young	TOT	0	-4	2.7
378	S Campbell	TOT	0	34	3.3
396	R Vega	TOT	0	15	3.4
907	R Nilsen	TOT	0	0	2.7
315	J Dicks	WES	0	3	3.3
319	I Pearce	WES	3	21	3.1
367	J Margas	WES	0	-8	3.2
369	N Ruddock	WES	3	15	3.0
393	R Ferdinand	WES	0	16	3.2
372	C Perry	WIM	-3	-3	3.1
390	B McAllister	WIM	0	0	2.8
392	D Blackwell	WIM	-3	-4	2.9

MIDFIELDERS

Code	Name	Club	Wk	Tot	Val
405	E Petit	ARS	0	10	4.4
406	M Overmars	ARS	0	30	5.8
416	R Parlour	ARS	0	25	4.0
420	P Vieira	ARS	0	5	4.1
424	F Ljungberg	ARS	0	3	6.5
425	S Hughes	ARS	0	7	3.5
407	M Draper	AST	3	3	3.7
409	S Grayson	AST	0	0	3.3
410	A Thompson	AST	0	9	4.5
411	F Ferraresi	AST	0	0	3.8
413	L Hendrie	AST	3	19	3.7
535	I Taylor	AST	4	15	3.8
415	B McKinlay	BLA	0	0	3.2
417	J Wilcox	BLA	0	9	4.0
419	D Duff	BLA	0	4	4.2
421	J Corbett	BLA	0	0	3.3
422	T Sherwood	BLA	0	17	4.1
423	D Johnson	BLA	0	9	3.1
426	O Kende	BLA	0	0	3.3
427	D Marcolin	BLA	0	3	3.6
428	D Dunn	BLA	0	7	3.1
575	G Flitcroft	BLA	0	10	3.3
499	S Parker	CHA	0	2	3.0
501	K Jones	CHA	0	5	3.1
502	M Kinsella	CHA	0	8	3.5
504	M Holmes	CHA	0	0	3.2
505	S Newton	CHA	0	2	3.3
506	J Robinson	CHA	0	7	3.2
507	N Redfearn	CHA	0	8	4.1
508	P Mortimer	CHA	0	5	3.4
401	M Nicholls	CHE	0	0	3.3
404	P Hughes	CHE	0	0	3.1
429	J Morris	CHE	0	7	3.2
430	R Di Matteo	CHE	0	14	4.4
433	B Goldbaek	CHE	2	18	3.9
434	D Petrescu	CHE	0	14	4.3
435	E Newton	CHE	0	0	3.1
437	G Poyet	CHE	3	28	4.9
439	D Wise	CHE	0	6	3.8
465	G McAllister	COV	0	10	3.9
584	L Delorge	COV	0	0	3.5
588	B Quinn	COV	0	2	3.2
589	P Hall	COV	0	0	3.8
590	P Telfer	COV	0	7	3.5
591	N Whelan	COV	0	29	4.4
592	T E Soltvedt	COV	2	12	3.4
593	W Boland	COV	0	0	3.0
594	G Boateng	COV	3	18	3.3
595	P Clement	COV	0	2	3.5
596	G Strachan	COV	0	0	3.1
598	S Shilton	COV	0	0	3.0
599	S Froggatt	COV	0	17	3.7
440	D Powell	DER	0	4	3.2
442	S Eranio	DER	0	2	3.8
443	L Carsley	DER	0	5	3.1
444	F Baiano	DER	0	14	5.2
445	K Harper	DER	0	5	3.7
479	L Bohinen	DER	2	6	3.6
403	G Farrelly	EVE	0	0	3.2
414	T Grant	EVE	0	0	3.1
418	D Williamson	EVE	0	0	3.2
447	J Oster	EVE	0	0	3.4
448	N Barmby	EVE	4	15	4.8
449	O Dacourt	EVE	0	6	3.8
450	J Collins	EVE	0	3	4.6
570	D Hutchison	EVE	0	17	4.0
457	M Jones	LEE	0	0	3.0
458	W Korsten	LEE	0	6	3.5
459	H Kewell	LEE	0	36	4.4
466	L Bowyer	LEE	0	23	3.9
480	A I Haaland	LEE	0	2	3.5
481	B Ribeiro	LEE	0	3	3.8
482	G Halle	LEE	0	6	3.3
522	D Hopkin	LEE	0	19	3.7
532	S McPhail	LEE	0	4	3.1
452	N Lennon	LEI	0	7	3.5
453	S Campbell	LEI	0	0	3.1
454	G Parker	LEI	0	0	3.8
460	M Izzet	LEI	0	13	3.8
565	T Zagorakis	LEI	0	7	3.4
412	J Carragher	LIV	0	8	3.3
467	J Redknapp	LIV	5	25	4.2
468	S McManaman	LIV	0	14	5.5
469	P Berger	LIV	0	25	4.4
470	D Thompson	LIV	0	3	3.2
472	S Gerrard	LIV	0	0	3.1
475	J M Ferri	LIV	0	0	3.9
487	D Murphy	LIV	0	0	3.7
490	P Ince	LIV	2	19	4.5
529	O Leonhardsen	LIV	0	0	4.3
483	J Blomqvist	MAN	0	9	5.0
484	N Butt	MAN	0	14	4.1
485	R Giggs	MAN	0	17	5.8
486	P Scholes	MAN	0	31	5.5
491	J Cruyff	MAN	0	8	3.8
492	D Beckham	MAN	0	35	5.9
509	R Keane	MAN	0	6	4.4
510	N Maddison	MID	0	0	3.1
511	A Townsend	MID	2	9	3.8
512	R Mustoe	MID	3	11	3.4
514	P Gascoigne	MID	0	15	4.5
515	P Merson	MID	2	19	4.7
516	A Moore	MID	0	0	3.5
517	P Stamp	MID	0	8	3.4
533	M Summerbell	MID	0	0	3.0
566	K O'Neill	MID	2	2	3.9
461	G Georgiadis	NEW	0	0	3.9
462	D Batty	NEW	0	0	3.7
463	S Glass	NEW	0	17	3.5
464	G Speed	NEW	0	12	4.3
473	J Barnes	NEW	0	0	3.6
477	J McClen	NEW	0	0	3.0
478	S Maric	NEW	0	2	4.4
488	P Dalglish	NEW	0	3	3.8
489	K Gillespie	NEW	0	7	4.3
493	G Brady	NEW	0	0	3.3
494	D Hamilton	NEW	0	0	3.3
495	T Ketsbaia	NEW	3	25	3.8
496	R Lee	NEW	0	4	4.2
497	D Hamann	NEW	0	11	3.9
518	N Quashie	NOT	0	2	3.8
519	G Hodges	NOT	0	0	3.3
520	C Bart-Williams	NOT	0	5	3.6
521	S Gemmill	NOT	0	2	3.5
524	G Thomas	NOT	0	0	3.5
525	A Johnson	NOT	0	8	3.7
526	S Stone	NOT	2	9	4.0
527	I Woan	NOT	0	0	3.8
530	A Gray	NOT	0	0	3.4
545	H Porfirio	NOT	0	0	3.6
550	J Harkes	NOT	0	0	3.1
537	N Alexandersson	SHE	0	17	3.5
538	P Rudi	SHE	0	20	3.6
539	G Whittingham	SHE	0	0	3.7
546	S Oakes	SHE	0	0	3.0
547	W Jonk	SHE	0	14	4.3
548	J Magilton	SHE	0	0	3.1
549	D Sonner	SHE	0	8	3.2
562	B Carbone	SHE	6	38	4.7
597	E Thome	SHE	0	7	3.2
500	S Ripley	SOU	0	2	3.9
536	C Palmer	SOU	0	2	3.2
541	D Howells	SOU	0	3	3.2
542	M Le Tissier	SOU	0	27	6.0
543	W Bridge	SOU	0	0	3.0
544	K Gibbens	SOU	0	0	3.0
556	C Marsden	SOU	0	0	3.3
557	M Oakley	SOU	0	12	3.1
558	D Hughes	SOU	0	0	3.1
498	D Ginola	TOT	0	18	4.8
503	R Fox	TOT	0	8	4.1
523	A Sinton	TOT	0	0	3.4
551	S Clemence	TOT	0	0	3.2
552	S Freund	TOT	0	0	3.9
553	A Nielsen	TOT	0	13	3.7
554	J Dominguez	TOT	0	5	3.5
555	D Anderton	TOT	3	24	4.6
568	M Saib	TOT	0	0	3.6
436	J Moncur	WES	0	0	3.4
561	E Berkovic	WES	0	20	4.8
573	M V Foe	WES	0	2	3.6
574	J Cole	WES	0	0	3.5
576	T Sinclair	WES	0	14	5.1
577	S Lomas	WES	0	5	3.3
578	F Lampard	WES	0	22	3.7
579	M Keller	WES	0	11	3.9
471	M Kennedy	WIM	0	2	3.8
559	R Earle	WIM	0	14	4.1
560	A Roberts	WIM	0	8	3.3
563	N Ardley	WIM	0	2	3.4
580	M Hughes	WIM	0	13	3.5
585	C Ainsworth	WIM	2	2	3.8
586	C Hughes	WIM	0	0	3.3
587	P Fear	WIM	0	0	3.0

FORWARDS

Code	Name	Club	Wk	Tot	Val
601	L Boa Morte	ARS	0	0	5.4
602	N Anelka	ARS	0	47	8.0
606	D Bergkamp	ARS	3	53	9.1
617	N Kanu	ARS	0	5	7.7
623	C Wreh	ARS	0	0	5.8
624	K Diawara	ARS	0	0	6.4
645	D Yorke	AST	0	74	8.3
646	J Joachim	AST	6	37	8.2
651	D Vassell	AST	0	0	5.4
652	S Collymore	AST	0	7	8.0
647	C Sutton	BLA	0	15	8.4
648	N Blake	BLA	0	9	6.7
691	M Dahlin	BLA	0	4	6.4
692	A Ward	BLA	0	14	6.9
693	K Gallacher	BLA	0	9	7.5
695	M Jansen	BLA	0	11	6.4
698	K Davies	BLA	0	7	7.4
604	C Mendonca	CHA	0	14	6.5
605	M Bright	CHA	0	3	5.8
607	S Jones	CHA	0	5	5.0
608	A Hunt	CHA	0	22	5.5
616	M Pringle	CHA	0	9	5.2
709	G Stuart	CHA	3	3	6.0
636	P Casiraghi	CHE	0	5	7.6
637	T A Flo	CHE	3	38	7.2
639	G Vialli	CHE	0	4	6.6
642	M Forssell	CHE	0	3	5.9
679	G Zola	CHE	2	40	7.4
680	D Huckerby	COV	0	31	7.2
683	D Dublin	COV	3	51	7.9
686	J Aloisi	COV	0	18	8.4
612	D Sturridge	DER	0	24	6.6
625	D Burton	DER	0	27	5.3
694	P Wanchope	DER	0	37	6.8
696	M Christie	DER	0	0	5.0
628	D Cadamarteri	EVE	0	16	5.3
631	K Campbell	EVE	8	10	6.3
675	I Bakayoko	EVE	0	12	6.7
677	F Jeffers	EVE	3	13	5.1
689	M Branch	EVE	0	0	5.2
702	D Ferguson	EVE	0	18	7.5
681	C Wijnhard	LEE	0	10	6.8
662	J F Hasselbaink	LEE	0	68	8.1
671	A Smith	LEE	0	24	6.1
621	S Wilson	LEI	0	0	5.0
622	E Heskey	LEI	0	21	6.8
626	T Cottee	LEI	3	23	5.4
656	A Gunnlaugsson	LEI	0	0	8.1
657	I Marshall	LEI	0	0	5.7
669	G Fenton	LEI	0	0	5.2
618	K Riedle	LIV	0	17	7.7
619	S Dundee	LIV	0	0	7.0
620	R Fowler	LIV	0	54	9.4
690	M Owen	LIV	3	51	10.5
640	O G Solskjaer	MAN	0	33	8.1
641	A Cole	MAN	0	55	8.7
649	T Sheringham	MAN	0	0	7.5
609	B Deane	MID	2	22	6.5
611	H Ricard	MID	11	46	6.8
613	M Beck	MID	0	20	6.2
615	A Armstrong	MID	0	0	6.0
653	A Campbell	MID	0	0	5.1
667	A Andersson	NEW	0	3	6.7
670	A Shearer	NEW	0	36	10.1
676	L Saha	NEW	0	7	6.2
627	M Harewood	NOT	0	5	5.1
629	N Shipperley	NOT	0	7	6.5
630	P Van Hooijdonk	NOT	5	26	7.8
634	J C Darcheville	NOT	0	5	6.1
635	D Freedman	NOT	3	30	6.3
655	R Cresswell	SHE	0	0	5.8
659	R Humphreys	SHE	0	3	5.3
660	A Quinn	SHE	0	0	5.0
663	F Sanetti	SHE	0	0	5.9
664	A Booth	SHE	0	24	6.5
666	P Di Canio	SHE	0	14	7.1
708	M Pahars	SOT	0	0	6.1
638	M Hughes	SOU	0	2	6.5
665	D Hirst	SOU	0	0	6.1
703	E Ostenstad	SOU	0	26	6.9
704	J Beattie	SOU	0	15	5.2
706	S Basham	SOU	0	3	5.0
707	H Kachloul	SOU	0	15	5.1
650	C Armstrong	TOT	0	25	7.1
658	L Ferdinand	TOT	0	11	8.1
687	S Iversen	TOT	0	17	6.4
688	R Allen	TOT	0	0	5.2
603	I Wright	WES	0	24	7.8
614	J Hartson	WES	0	22	8.2
643	S Abou	WES	0	0	5.6
644	P Kitson	WES	0	15	6.3
672	C Leaburn	WIM	0	8	5.5
681	J Euell	WIM	0	34	6.4
700	M Gayle	WIM	5	46	5.8
701	E Ekoku	WIM	0	12	6.0
705	C Cort	WIM	3	6	5.3

Referee admits missing handball

By Russell Kempson

IT WILL hardly appease George Graham, the manager of Tottenham Hotspur, but Paul Durkin, the referee, admitted yesterday that he made an error during the FA Cup semi-final at Old Trafford on Sunday. Durkin accepted that he failed to notice the obvious handball of Nikos Dabizas, the Newcastle United defender, during the first half when the match was goalless. Newcastle went on to win 2-0.

Graham was angered by Durkin's mistake and described him as having "a poor day at the office". Durkin did spot a handball by Sol Campbell, the Tottenham defender, in extra time, which led to the penalty from which Alan Shearer put Newcastle ahead.

"I haven't had a chance to watch the video, but from what I've been told, I obviously missed a crucial decision," Durkin said. "Maybe I was in the wrong position, but I genuinely didn't see it and neither did my linesman, Mark Cooper. I'm bitterly disappointed, but that's the way it goes sometimes. I can't change what happened. I'm happy to take stick for missing the handball because I deserve it, but to say that I was poor throughout is a bit unfair. It's typical of a manager to blame the referee rather than to look at his own side's shortcomings."

David Elleray, who refereed the 0-0 draw between Manchester United and Arsenal in the other semi-final, upset Alex Ferguson, the United manager, by disallowing a goal by Roy Keane because of offside against Dwight Yorke. Elleray was about to give the goal until he noticed an assistant had flagged.

"I went over and consulted with him and he said that it was offside in the build-up. I acted on exactly what my assistant told me. I have to accept his view," Elleray said.

In the replay at Villa Park tomorrow, Arsenal will attempt to extend their record of seven successive matches without conceding a goal. Emmanuel Petit, the France midfield player, will return after completing a three-match suspension, replacing Nelson Vivas, the Argentinian, who became the tenth Arsenal player to be sent off this season, when he elbowed Nicky Butt.

Sunderland and Fulham can secure promotion places tonight

Reid has chequebook at the ready

By Russell Kempson and George Caulkin

SPEND, spend, spend — a familiar theme among the affluent in the FA Carling Premiership and Nationwide League — is one likely to be taken up by Peter Reid, the Sunderland manager, and Kevin Keegan, the chief operating officer of Fulham, over the coming months.

This evening, Sunderland will confirm their return to the Premiership if they defeat Bury at Gigg Lane, while Fulham will secure promotion to

SPENDING PATTERNS

SUNDERLAND

Paul Butler (Bury) £600,000, **Thomas Sorensen** (OB Odense) £500,000, **Neil Wainwright** (Wrexham) £100,000.

FULHAM

Barry Hayles (Bristol Rovers) £2 million, **Steve Finnan** (Notts County) £600,000, **Geoff Horsfield** (Halifax Town) £300,000, **Kevin Betsy** (Woking) £80,000, **Dirk Lehmann** (Energie Cottbus) £34,000, **François Keller** (Strasbourg) £30,000.

the first division of the Nationwide League if they beat Gillingham at Craven Cottage. Should Walsall lose to Bournemouth at Dean Court, Fulham will also win the second division title.

These two clubs have taken contrasting paths. Reid may have invested £1.2 million on three players last summer, but he has since relied mainly on those who suffered the heartbreak of the defeat in a penalty shoot-out by Charlton Athletic in the play-off final at Wembley last season.

Keegan, backed by the substantial funds of Mohamed Al Fayed, has not been shy to enter the transfer market, signing seven players for a combined total of more than £3 million, not to mention paying the wages of John Salako, Kit Symons and Gus Uhlenbeek, signed for nothing under the Bosman ruling, and Philippe Albert, who is on loan from Newcastle United.

Reid admits: "I'll probably need three or four new faces. I'm not scared of spending the money, I'm just scared of spending it wrongly. It's not mine, it belongs to the supporters."

Gigg Lane would be an appropriate venue for Sunderland to clinch promotion, for Reid finished his long and illustrious playing career with Bury. "We all know what we have to do, but Bury are fighting for their lives so we're not going to try to play pretty football," he said. "There's too much at stake."

The only dark cloud over Fulham concerns the future of Keegan, who switched to a more hands-on role 11 months ago, after the dismissal of Ray Wilkins, the coach, and has swept the team along on waves of optimism and enthusiasm.

The Football Association is desperately keen to make him the England coach on a full-time basis and Keegan and Al Fayed, after initial hesitation, are leaning apparently towards the same conclusion, although Keegan said: "I've really enjoyed managing Fulham and will continue to enjoy it. The England thing — it's really a nice adventure for four games."

Fulham supporters have become used to the unexpected. Last Saturday, Michael Jackson made a guest appearance at the 2-0 victory over Wigan Athletic and who can tell who might turn up tonight. "We haven't arranged anything special to mark the occasion, but, with the way Mr Al Fayed operates, who knows?" Patrick Mascall, Fulham's communications officer, said. "It's unlikely that Elvis will appear, but I've heard that Lord Lucan, riding Shergar, might pop along."

Happily, Keegan retains the common touch. He spent ten minutes signing autographs before a recent game against Reading at the Madejski Stadium. "That's the good thing about playing at this level," he said. "People can still get close to you and that's nice." Fulham will be in the first division next season, but England can offer an international stage for his considerable talents. Elvis, whether or not he turns up tonight, would confirm it is the only place to be.



RUI VIEIRA

Reid and his Sunderland players celebrate their promotion to the Premiership in 1996, which lasted for only one season

Zidane's knee injury flares up

By Stephen Wood

MANCHESTER United may be concentrating on one competition at a time, but the news that filtered through from Italy yesterday could hardly have escaped their notice. Zinedine Zidane, the Juventus player, has suffered an injury setback, thus casting doubt over his involvement in his side's European Cup semi-final, second leg against United next week.

Zidane, the Fifa world player of the year, was outstanding in the Juventus midfield as they earned a 1-1 draw from the first leg at Old Trafford. It was his first game back after a lay-off with a knee injury and there appeared to be no adverse reaction at the time.

However, the France international was substituted at half-time of Juventus's Serie A match with Bologna last weekend, complaining of a recurrence of the injury. "I didn't feel anything for 90 minutes against United," he said, "but against Bologna, all it needed was 45 minutes for it to start causing me discomfort."

The fixture in Turin next Wednesday is one of 11 that United face in 45 days. Alex Ferguson, the United manager, is expected to start shuffling his team selections tomorrow, even though the opposition is Arsenal, in the FA Cup semi-final replay at Villa Park. Denis Irwin is unlikely to recover from the injury that he sustained in the first match on Sunday, so Philip Neville will replace the left back. Gary Neville, the right back, also picked up an injury, but he is expected to be fit.

Ferguson said: "There is a different agenda now and I will begin to spread the load. I will not be afraid to make one or two changes for the replay and the [FA Carling Premiership] game against Sheffield Wednesday on Saturday."

Nicky Butt, though, is likely to retain his midfield place against Arsenal to combat Emmanuel Petit, who returns after suspension.

FOOTBALL IN BRIEF

■ ERIC BARNES was appointed the chairman of Nottingham Forest yesterday after Nigel Wray resigned his position. Barnes, who is based in Nottingham, is also the new non-executive chief of the club after Wray's departure.

■ Brighton and Hove Albion confirmed the appointment of Micky Adams as their new manager yesterday. Adams, 37, formerly in charge at Fulham and Brentford, is the seventh manager in the past five years at the club and replaces Jeff Wood, who was dismissed last Friday.

■ Supporters of Luton Town are to set up a group to save the Nationwide League second division club from going out of existence. Three organisations have combined to form Fans of Luton Action Group (FLAG) and they hope to use the example of Bournemouth to save their club.

■ Crystal Palace suffered yet another setback yesterday with the news that TDK, the club's long-term sponsor, will terminate its contract at Selhurst Park after six years at the end of the season. Palace are £23 million in debt.

SPORT IN BRIEF

Brooking takes up permanent residence

■ **SPORTS POLITICS:** Trevor Brooking has been named the new chairman of Sport England (previously the English Sports Council) after a rumoured internal dispute within the Government. To make a clean break with the past, Tony Banks, the Minister for Sport, was understood to be in favour of appointing a woman, Tessa Sanderson, but Chris Smith, the Heritage Secretary, could not be persuaded.
Instead, the former England footballer, who has been acting chairman, has got the job. Sanderson has been invited to become one of two vice-chairs; Des Wilson, the director of corporate and public affairs of BAA plc, is the other.

■ **EQUESTRIANISM:** Blyth Tait, of New Zealand, the Olympic and world champion, heads the field for the inaugural Chatsworth Horse & Hound International Horse Trials, which take place on May 22 and 23 at the Derbyshire home of the Duke and Duchess of Devonshire. Ian Stark, William Fox-Pitt and Karen Dixon are among the leading British contenders for the event. John and Michael Whitaker, Nick Skelton and Robert Smith are among the record entries for Royal Windsor Horse Show, which takes place from May 13 to 16.

■ **TENNIS:** Andre Agassi completed a 6-7, 6-4, 6-4 win over Boris Becker in the delayed final of the Hong Kong Open. The two players returned to the court after play on Sunday was rained off with Agassi leading 2-0 in the third set, but the 1992 Wimbledon champion needed just 36 minutes to complete victory. Monica Seles captured her first title of 1999 and the 44th of her career after beating Ruxandra Dragomir, of Romania, in Amelia Island, Florida.

■ **RIFLE SHOOTING:** Alexandra Pilgrim, 28, after making top score in the team match at short range, went on to win the Sussex long range Harvey Cup by one point from Tim Brooking in difficult winds.

O'Brien chalks up rousing victory

SNOOKER

By Phil Yates

THE success of Fergal O'Brien at the British Open will be a source of inspiration for all of those snooker professionals who toil in relative anonymity, dreaming of capturing a title. It was a triumph for dedication, as opposed to precocious talent.

At the end of a season in which every previous tournament winner had been a member of the inner circle of well-known players, O'Brien beat Anthony Hamilton 9-7 on Sunday to strike a rare blow for the underdogs.

Since turning professional in 1991, O'Brien has got the better of Stephen Hendry, Steve Davis and Ken Doherty, but, until he recorded a 6-5 victory over John Higgins in the semi-finals of the event in Plymouth, the acquisition of a trophy had never seemed to be likely. He had followed each encouraging result with an even more discouraging defeat, but, instead of falling victim to disillusionment, the stoic Dubliner spent longer at the practice table.

He lost his opening three matches of the season — in the final qualifying rounds of the China International, the Thailand Masters and the Irish Open — all, ironically, played in Plymouth — and decided to intensify his already prodigious workload. As a result, he reached the quarter-finals of the United Kingdom championship in November.

Nevertheless, on arrival at the British Open, there was nothing to suggest that he was about to become only the second player from Ireland, after Doherty, to win a world-ranking event.

Eliminating Higgins gave O'Brien the right to approach his debut in a final with considerable optimism and, despite failing to pot a ball in the opening two frames, he fought with admirable spirit.

"They'll have to surgically remove me from this trophy," O'Brien said. "I don't know how other people react when they win their first tournament, but I can't imagine anyone feeling any better than I do at the moment."

O'Brien improves from No 18 to No 10 in the provisional world rankings. However, this steep climb is bad news for Jimmy White, who falls from No 15 to No 17.

With the Embassy world championship, which starts on Saturday, carrying the highest points tariff of the season, much can still change, but White needs to beat Alan McManus in the first round to retain any hope of reclaiming his status among the top 16. O'Brien's initial opposition in the world championship will be supplied by Tony Drago, of Malta.



SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

By Robert Sheehan, Bridge Correspondent

Few declarers in this year's Portland Pairs (the British Mixed Pairs Championship) made Three No-Trumps on the following deal. Cover up the East-West hands and decide on your line of play.

Dealer South **Love all** **Pairs**

North: ♠ K 4 ♡ A K J 8 ◇ A 6 ♣ K 7 5 3 2

West: ♠ A Q 10 8 5 ♡ 7 5 ◇ 10 8 2 ♣ J 9 8

East: ♠ 7 6 ♡ 10 4 3 2 ◇ Q 9 5 3 ♣ A Q 6

South: ♠ J 9 3 2 ♡ Q 9 6 ◇ K J 7 4 ♣ 10 4

S	W	N	E
Pass	Pass	1 C	Pass
1 S	Pass	2 H	Pass
2 NT	Pass	3 NT	All Pass

Contract: Three No-Trumps by South. Lead: eight of spades.

The straightforward line of play is to win the nine of spades and play a club to the king. East wins the ace and returns a spade to West's ace. West gets off play with a heart and declarer plays a second club. Provided the defenders are alert they can now take, in total, three clubs and two spades for one down.

Now think a little more deeply. The opening lead has been very revealing. Presumably the eight was fourth highest and surely West would not have led from a four-card suit into a suit bid on his right. West's actual spade holding is marked.

Try the effect of returning a spade at trick two. West wins his ace and has one chance to beat the contract. He must switch to the jack of clubs and again the defence can take three clubs and two spades, but this is far from easy for him to find. Suppose instead that he returns a passive heart.

Declarer now does not need the ace of clubs right (probably against the odds given West's initial pass and his known good spade suit), but needs East to hold Q-x-x-(x) in diamonds instead. He cashes four rounds of hearts, discarding a club, cashes the ace of diamonds, plays a diamond to his jack, cashes the king of diamonds and exits with his last diamond. This forces East to open up the club suit.

Even if West does have the ace of clubs there is nothing he can do after making it; he has to give dummy a club trick or declarer a spade.

KEENE on CHESS

By Raymond Keene, Chess Correspondent

Redbus tournament

Today I give two further games from the enterprising Redbus knockout tournament held at Southend over the Easter weekend. In the first game Malcom Pein brilliantly demolishes Daniel King while the second contains a brilliant finish pulled off against the eventual tournament joint-winner.

White: Daniel King
Black: Malcolm Pein
Redbus knockout
Southend 1999

Ruy Lopez

1	e4	e5
2	Nf3	Nc6
3	Bb5	a6
4	Ba4	Nf6
5	0-0	Be7
6	Re1	b5
7	Bb3	0-0
8	d4	d6
9	c3	Bg4
10	d5	Na5
11	Bc2	Qc8
12	h3	Bd7
13	Nbd2	c6
14	dxc6	Qxc6
15	Nf1	Rac8
16	Ng3	g6
17	Bh6	Rfe8
18	Rc1	Bf8
19	Qd2	Bg7
20	Qg5	Bh8
21	Qh4	Nc4
22	b3	Nb6
23	Bb1	Be6
24	Ng5	d5
25	f4	exf4
26	Qxf4	dxe4
27	Nxe6	Rxe6
28	Nxe4	Nbd5
29	Qf2	Rce8
30	Nxf6+	Bxf6
31	Rxe6	Qxe6
32	c4	Nc3
33	Bd3	Rd8
34	Re1	Bd4
35	Be3	Nd1
36	Bxd4	Nxf2
37	Rxe6	Nxh3+
38	gxh3	fxe6
39	Kf2	Rxd4
40	Ke3	Rh4
41	cxb5	Rxh3+
42	Kd4	axb5
43	Bxb5	g5
44	b4	Ra3
45	Bc4	Kf7
46	b5	g4
47	b6	g3

White resigns

Diagram of final position

White: Colin McNab
Black: James Plaskett
Redbus knockout
Southend 1999

English Opening

1	c4	b6
2	Nc3	Bb7
3	e4	e6
4	d3	Nf6
5	Nge2	c5
6	g3	Nc6
7	Bg2	d6
8	0-0	Be7
9	d4	cxd4
10	Nxd4	Rc8
11	b3	0-0
12	Ba3	Qd7
13	Qd2	Rfd8
14	Rac1	a6
15	Rfd1	Bf8
16	Nc2	Ba8
17	Ne3	Qb7
18	Qe2	Qb8
19	Rd2	Ne5
20	f4	Ned7
21	f5	Nc5
22	fxe6	fxe6
23	Rf1	Re8
24	Ng4	Nxg4
25	Qxg4	b5
26	cxb5	axb5
27	Bb2	Re7
28	b4	Nd7
29	Ne2	Ne5
30	Bxe5	dxe5
31	Kh1	Bc6
32	Nc1	Rd8
33	Rdf2	Qd6
34	a3	Ree8
35	Nb3	Qd3
36	Rf3	Qc2
37	Na5	Bd7
38	Rf7	Bc8
39	h4	Rd3
40	Bh3	Rxa3
41	R7f2	Qc3
42	Qxe6+	Black resigns

FOR THE RECORD

BASEBALL

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Florida 1 Philadelphia 2; Atlanta 3 Arizona 2; Montreal 3 NY Mets 6; Pittsburgh 9 Chicago Cubs 6; St Louis 2 Cincinnati 4; Houston 5 Milwaukee 2; San Francisco 8 San Diego 6. Postponed: Los Angeles v Colorado

AMERICAN LEAGUE: Baltimore 5 Toronto 9; NY Yankees 11 Detroit 2; Tampa Bay 5 Boston 4; Chi White Sox 1 Kansas City 3; Minnesota 8 Cleveland 9; Seattle 11 Oakland 8; Texas 6 Anaheim 3

BASKETBALL

BUDWEISER LEAGUE: Championship play-offs: Quarter-finals, first leg: Birmingham Bullets 82 Manchester Giants 74; Greater London Leopards 83 Sheffield Sharks 76.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): New Jersey 78 New York 93; Utah 85 Houston 76; LA Lakers 109 Seattle 113; Minnesota 88 Detroit 79; Boston 87 Chicago 81; Miami 95 Milwaukee 92; Washington 105 Philadelphia 98; Vancouver 88 Sacramento 91; LA Clippers 89 Portland 83

BOWLS

WATERLOO, Blackpool: Second round: M Williams (Turton) bt M Jump (Preston) 21-16; S Harris (Crompton) bt C Grimshaw (Leigh) 21-19; M Leach (Warton) bt K Bibby (Burnley) 21-13; C Cowsill (Horwich) bt T Hewitt (Hoole) 21-18; B Tomlinson (Blackburn) bt D Carter (Halifax) 21-11; G Merry (Tarporley) bt T Gailey (Warrington) 21-16; I Werron (Stafford) bt J Comes (Northwich) 21-20; I Rutter (Wigan) bt A Spragg (Chesterfield) 21-19; M Hill (Wolverhampton) bt E Stone (Chesterfield) 21-20; M Bower (Chesterfield) bt G Coupe (Walton-le-Dale) 21-16; J Lofthouse (Colne) bt H Rogers (Stoke) 21-11; P Mort (Eccleston) bt E Hadley (Carleton) 21-18

CRICKET

One-day international

West Indies v Australia

KINGSTOWN (Australia won toss): West Indies beat Australia by 44 runs

WEST INDIES

S L Campbell b Lee	62
S Chanderpaul c Reiffel b Fleming	7
*B C Lara c Bevan b Lee	16
†J C Adams run out	30
S C Williams b Reiffel	0
K L T Arthurton st Gilchrist b Warne	10
P V Simmons c M Waugh b Fleming	25
H R Bryan lbw b Warne	0
N O Perry c Ponting b Julian	3
M Dillon not out	13
C A Walsh b Fleming	2
Extras (b 1, lb 8, w 20, nb 6)	35
Total (48.1 overs)	209

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-21, 2-58, 3-134, 4-135, 5-146, 6-150, 7-152, 8-182, 9-204

BOWLING: Fleming 9.1-1-41-3; Reiffel 10-1-34-1; Julian 9-0-51-1; Lee 10-0-44-2; Warne 10-3-30-2

AUSTRALIA

M E Waugh b Ryan	28
†A C Gilchrist c Adams b Dillon	2
R T Ponting c Williams b Dillon	23
D S Lehmann run out	24
*S R Waugh b Bryan	10
M G Bevan c Adams b Bryan	1
s Lee b Bryan	5
B P Julian b Perry	35
S K Warne b Arthurton b Arthurton	11
P R Reiffel not out	9
D W Fleming run out	0
Extras (lb 4, w 9, nb 4)	17
Total (41.5 overs)	165

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-6, 2-57, 3-60, 4-88, 5-100, 6-106, 7-109, 8-144, 9-165

BOWLING: Walsh 8-1-37-0; Dillon 10-1-45-2; Bryan 10-1-24-4; Arthurton 9-1-33-1; Perry 3.5-0-15-1; Simmons 1-0-7-0

Umpires: W Doctrove and E A Nicholls

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL): Dallas 6 Los Angeles 2; Detroit 0 Pittsburgh 3; St Louis 2 Colorado 4; Anaheim 3 Phoenix 0

RACKETS

LACOSTE OPEN DOUBLES CHAMPIONSHIP: First round: J Stewart-Liberty and R Lawson bt A Lyons and G Hill 15-5, 4-15, 15-9, 0-15, 15-5, 15-1; J Larken and T Sawrey-Cookson bt R Wakely and M Hubberd 15-12, 12-15, 15-3, 10-15, 15-9, 15-2; A and G Smith-Bingham bt C Danby and H Angus 8-15, 15-8, 15-6, 15-11, 17-14

REAL TENNIS

CAMBRIDGE: Brian Church Bowl: Amateur doubles: Semi-final: R Krznaric and D Reid bt N Baker and M Hagney 6-5, 6-5; H Angus and M McMurugh bt C Bean and N Lloyd 6-2, 6-3; R Krznaric and D Reid bt H Angus and M McMurugh 2-6, 6-4, 6-4

RUGBY FIVES

CHRIST'S HOSPITAL, Horsham: National veteran's championships: Singles: Quarter-finals: I Fuller bt P de Winton 11-0, 11-2; D Hebden bt W Avenell 11-9, 11-2; T Lewis bt A Hughes 11-1, 11-7; J Schroeter bt P King 11-3, 11-2. **Semi-finals:** Fuller bt Hebdon 11-1, 11-1; Schroeter bt Lewis 11-8, 11-3. **Final:** Fuller bt Schroeter 11-8, 11-3. **Doubles: Quarter-finals:** I Fuller and J Schroeter bt J Mon and E Andrews 15-0, 15-1; S Watson and T Lewis bt J Robertson and W Avenell 15-6, 15-2; B Atkinson and R Dolby bt P Ross and R Hunt 15-7, 15-4; K Puckle and D Hebdon bt P King and J Denham 15-7, 15-3. **Semi-finals:** Fuller and Schroeter bt Watson and Lewis 15-3, 15-3; Puckle and Hebdon bt Atkinson and Dolby 15-6, 15-4. **Final:** Fuller and Schroeter bt Puckle and Hebdon 15-5 15-5

SNOOKER

PLYMOUTH: British Open: Final: F O'Brien (Ire) bt A Hamilton (Eng) 9-7

SQUASH

PARSDORF, Germany: Citroën Classic: Women: Semi-finals: M Martin (Aus) bt S Schöne (Ger) 9-2, 9-6, 9-4; C Jackman (Eng) bt L Joyce (NZ) 4-9, 10-8, 9-4, 3-9, 9-1.

HELSINKI: Ajanpaino Finnish Open: Men: Semi-finals: D Palmer (Aus) bt D Jenson (Aus) 12-15, 15-9, 15-10, 15-9; O El-borolossy (Egypt) bt J Raumohn (Fin) 15-4, 10-15, 15-14, 15-5.

DERBYSHIRE: Duffield Morson International: Men: Final: J Kneipp (Aus) bt P Lord (Eng) 15-7, 15-6, 15-10. Women: Final: T Bailey (Eng) bt A Wray (Eng) 9-4, 9-0, 7-9, 9-3

TENNIS

HONG KONG OPEN: A Agassi (US) bt B Becker (Ger) 6-7, 6-4, 6-4

BARCELONA: Men's tournament: First round: F Clavet (Sp) bt J Alonso (Sp) 6-4, 6-4; M Safin (Russ) bt O Serrano (Sp) 6-1, 7-5; A Berasategui (Sp) bt A di Pasquale (Fr) 6-3, 6-2; K Alami (Mar) bt M Gustafsson (Swe) 3-6, 6-1, 6-2; G Puentes (Sp) bt F Cabello (Arg) 7-6, 7-6; A Ilie (Aus) bt M-K Goellner (Ger) 6-4, 6-3; A Pavel (Rom) bt C Costa (Sp) 6-3, 6-7, 6-1; F Squillari (Arg) bt J S Vicano (Sp) 7-6, 6-2; A Clement (Fr) bt P Haarhuis (Neth) 6-4, 6-7, 6-4; R Furlan (It) bt H Arazi (Mar) 6-3, 6-4; Y El Aynaoui (Mar) bt M Larsson (Swe) 7-5, 6-3

POOLS FORECAST

Saturday April 17
Coupon no, fixture, forecast

FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP

1 Charlton v Leeds 2
2 Coventry v Middlesbro X
3 Liverpool v Aston Villa X
4 Man Utd v Sheff Wed 1
5 Newcastle v Everton 1
6 Nott'm F v Tottenham 2
7 South'pton v Blackburn X
8 West Ham v Derby 1

NATIONWIDE LEAGUE FIRST DIVISION

9 Birmingham v Wolves 2
10 Bolton v Ipswich 2
11 Bradford C v Hudd'field 1
12 Crewe v Watford 2
13 Crystal P v Swindon 1
14 Grimsby v Bury X
15 Norwich v Tranmere 2
16 Port Vale v Oxford 1
17 Sheff United v QPR 1
18 Stockport v Bristol C 2
19 W Brom v Portsmouth X

SECOND DIVISION

20 *Bristol R v Millwall 1
21 Burnley v Bouth'm'th X
22 Chest'field v Fulham 2
23 Gillingham v Man City 2
24 Luton v Lincoln 1
25 Preston v Blackpool 1
26 Reading v North'pton 1
27 Walsall v Macclesf'ld 1
28 Wrexham v Oldham X
29 *Wycombe v Wigan X
30 York v Stoke 1

THIRD DIVISION

31 Barnet v Mansfield 1
32 Brentford v Leyton X
33 Darlington v Camb'ge 2
34 Halifax v Brighton 1
35 Hartlepool v Scarboro 1
36 Hull v Scunthorpe X
37 Peterboro v Torquay 1
38 Plymouth v Southend 1
39 Rochdale v Chester 1

SCOTTISH PREMIER LEAGUE

40 Aberdeen v Dundee U 1
41 Celtic v Rangers 1
42 *Dundee v Rangers 2
43 Dunf'mline v Kilmarnock 2
44 St Johnst'ne v Hearts 1

SCOTTISH LEAGUE FIRST DIVISION

45 Falkirk v Raith 1
46 G Morton v Airdrie 1
47 Hamilton v Stranraer 1
48 Hibernian v St Mirren 1

SECOND DIVISION

49 Arbroath v Livingston 2

*pools panel to adjudicate.

TREBLE CHANCE (home teams): Coventry, Liverpool, Southampton, Grimsby, Port Vale, West Bromwich, Burnley, Wrexham, Brentford, Hull

BEST DRAWS: Southampton, Grimsby, Port Vale, West Bromwich, Burnley

AWAYS: Leeds, Tottenham, Tranmere, Bristol City, Cambridge

HOMES: Manchester United, Newcastle, West Ham, Bradford City, Crystal Palace, Luton, Walsall, Barnet, Plymouth.

FIXED ODDS: Homes: Newcastle, Bradford City, Crystal Palace, Luton, Barnet. **Aways:** Tottenham, Bristol City, Kilmarnock. **Draws:** Grimsby, Port Vale, Burnley

■ Vince Wright

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

LAYETTE
a. A battery hen house
b. A child prostitute
c. A baby's wardrobe

MOSKER
a. The chief morris dancer
b. To pawn
c. To decay

LAPRON
a. A French maid
b. A transparent plastic
c. A young rabbit

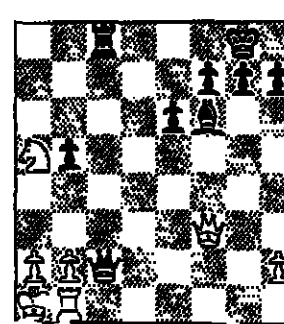
LAMPAD
a. Student's lodging at St Andrews
b. An second-year eel
c. A holy lamp

Answers on page 49

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

Black to play. This position is from the game McDonald — Hartley, Australian junior championship 1999. How did Black conclude the struggle with a classic checkmating combination?



Solution on page 49

John Hopkins on the remarkable return of a golfer who feared that he had played his last round

Olazabal walks tall to place in Masters history

Late on a soft, sunlit evening in Georgia, golf reminded us once more what a remarkable game it is for identifying champions who are gentle men and gentlemen. Sport is not overflowing with heroes who conduct their lives to the highest standards. Golf has more than its share at the moment.

In reverse finishing order in the 63rd Masters, there was Greg Norman, proving himself once again to be arguably the best loser in sport. Norman's gracious smile never wavered as yet again he came up short in a major championship. It was the ninth time in 19 Masters that he had finished in the top ten and the eighth time he had finished fifth or better.

Imagine how much he must have wanted to win after the drubbing that he received from Nick Faldo in 1996, and imagine how much the spectators, who adopted him as their sentimental favourite, willed him to succeed. Yet when he came third on Sunday, he graciously took off his cap, patted José Maria Olazábal on the back on the 18th green and said quietly: "Go, do it."

"He is a good person," Norman said of Olazábal. "He takes the time to make sure that you're OK. He's got a good heart. He's great for the game of golf and he's a great competitor. He cares about things that go on around him."

Then there was Davis Love III, who comes from one of the game's aristocratic families. Love, the 1997 US PGA champion, has a special link with Augusta. He was born the day after the conclusion of the 1964 tournament, at which his father finished 31st, and he held hopes of winning his first Masters two days before celebrating his 35th birthday today. He finished second, two strokes behind Olazábal.

"He's a fighter and a scrambler," Love said of the winner. "When he had hit foot problems, we heard he was done playing, he would never come back."

Most of all, there was Olazábal. On Sunday evening, the tributes were paid to a softly-spoken Spaniard with a fine command of colloquial English as he slipped on the green jacket. It was the same one as



he had been given when he won in 1994. It was a popular victory not only because of Olazábal's ability and nerve, but also because of the knowledge that the man who had walked so strongly for 72 holes, who had concentrated so hard and played so skilfully to overcome one of the strongest fields on the final day of a major championship in the history of golf, had three years ago been prostrate on a sofa in his home.

Olazábal was thought to be suffering from rheumatoid arthritis in his feet until a chance meeting with Dr Hans-Wilhelm Müller-Wohlfahrt, a doctor in Munich, altered the diagnosis to an injury to his lower back and led to a change in treatment.

In the darkest days of 1996, Olazábal wanted nothing more than solitude. "I thought I would never play golf again," he said. "Everybody was suffering. My lowest was in the summer of 1996 and the autumn. Watching the Masters on TV was not very pleasant, knowing that you had a right to be there and not being able to play. That made it really hard." His parents and sister tried to console him, but Olazábal said that he was "feeling so low that I did not want them to see me in this way".

Olazábal's total of 280 was the highest winning score this decade and emphasised just how difficult the course was playing. There were a number of reasons. By Sunday, two greens — the 14th and 17th — were rock hard. The new rough was also a factor and so was the lengthening of the 2nd and 17th holes. The 17th went from being one of the easiest holes to one of the most difficult, with a stroke average of 4.3.

It is also rare at Augusta to have a wind blowing so strongly for so long. On several days, in particular on Sunday, if you had stood near the 1st tee, shut your eyes and listened to the snapping and cracking of the flags, you would have been forgiven for thinking that this was an Open Championship at Royal St George's or Royal Lytham, not the Masters.

Enduring the pain as he did has made Olazábal a more rounded person and, perhaps, a better golfer. He said that his swing is better than when he won in 1994 and certainly his temperament is calmer. He is less hard on himself.

Most of all, he is aware of the priorities of his life. But for the treatment administered in Germany, Olazábal would not be where he is today. He was born of humble stock and, if anything, he is even more humble now.

The decency in him is transparent. He was asked what would be the first thing he would do when he returned to Spain, where he will compete in the Spanish Open next week. Tears welled in his eyes and for several moments he buried his head in his hands. "I will embrace my family for sure." A noble sentiment from a gentle man.

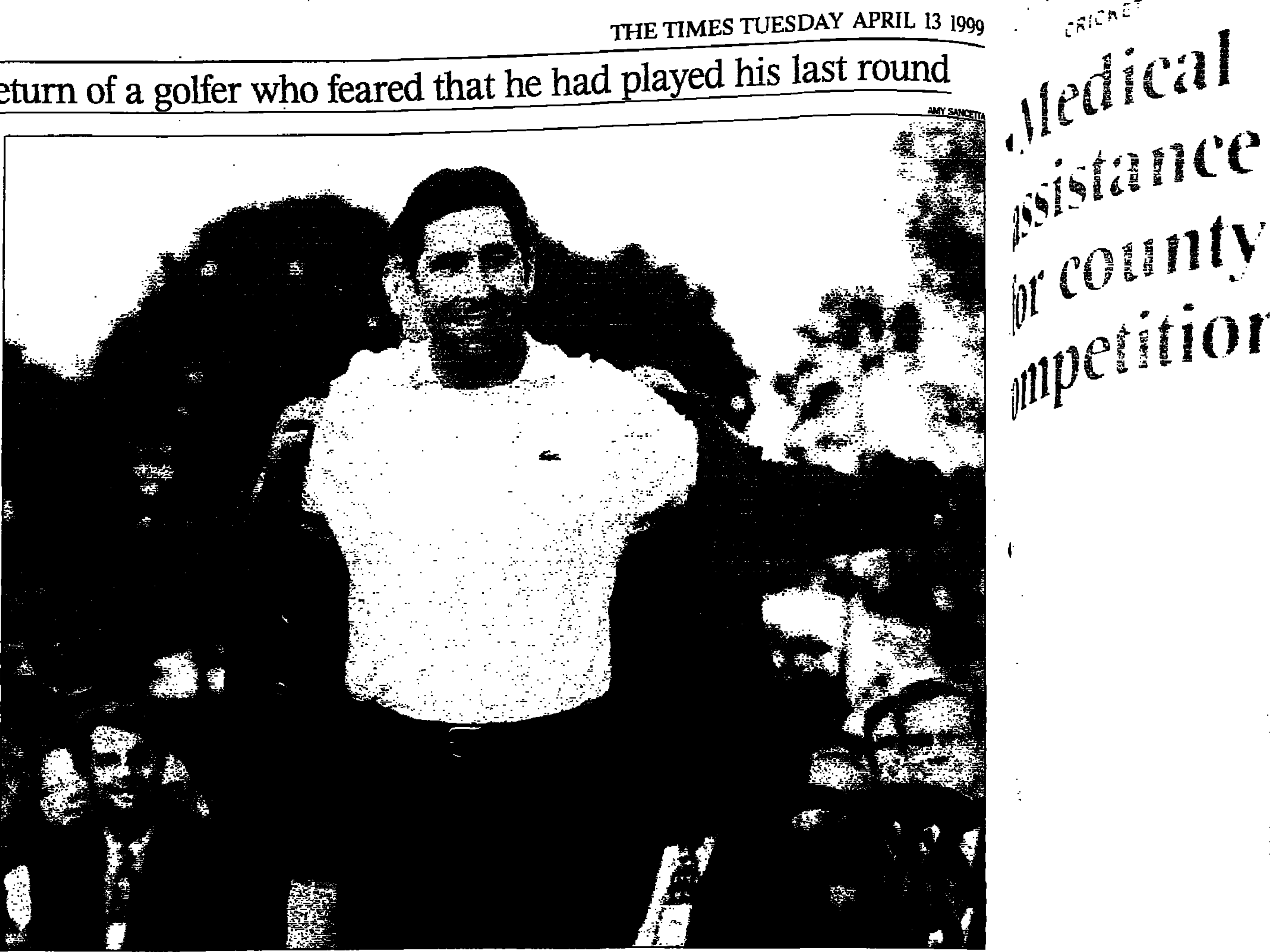
FINAL SCORES FROM AUGUSTA

United States unless stated

280: J M Olazabal (Sp) 70, 66, 73, 71 **282:** D Love III 69, 72, 70, 71 **283:** G Norman (Aus) 71, 68, 71, 73 **284:** R Estes 71, 72, 69, 72 S Pate 71, 75, 65, 73 **285:** D Duval 71, 74, 70, 70, P Mickelson 74, 69, 71, 71, L Westwood (GB) 75, 71, 68, 71, N Price (Zim) 69, 72, 72, 72; C Franco (Par) 72, 72, 68, 73 **287:** B Langer (Ger) 76, 66, 72, 73, S Elkington (Aus) 72, 70, 71, 74, C Montgomerie (GB) 70, 72, 71, 74 **288:** B Jobe 72, 71, 74, 71; I Woosnam (GB) 71, 74, 71, 72, J Furyk 72, 73, 70, 73, L Janzen 70, 69, 73, 76 **289:** B Chamblee 69, 73, 75, 72, J Leonard 70, 72, 73, 74; W Glasson 72, 70, 73, 74; T Woods 72, 72, 70, 75, S McCarron 69, 68, 76, 76 **290:** L Mize 76, 70, 72, 72 **291:** V Singh (Fiji) 72, 76, 71, 72, P-U Johansson (Swe) 75, 72, 71, 73, B Faxon 74, 73, 68, 76, **292:** F Couples 74, 71, 76, 71, R Mediate 73, 74, 69, 76, S Cink 74, 70, 71, 77; E Els (SA) 71, 72, 69, 80. **293:** S Maruyama (Japan) 78, 70, 71, 74, T Lehman 73, 72, 73, 75, B Watts 73, 73, 70, 77, J Sluman 70, 75, 70, 78; M O'Meara 70, 76, 69, 78 **294:** A Magee 70, 77, 72, 75, J Huston 74, 72, 71, 77. **295:** M Brooks 76, 72, 75, 72; *S Garcia (Sp) 72, 75, 75, 73, W Andrade 76, 72, 72, 75, R Floyd 74, 73, 72, 76, C Stadler 72, 76, 70, 77, S Stricker 75, 72, 69, 79 **297:** J Haas 74, 69, 79, 75, *T McKnight 73, 74, 73, 77, T Herron 75, 69, 74, 79; S Hoch 75, 73, 70, 79. **298:** C Parry (Aus) 75, 73, 73, 77; A Lyle (GB) 71, 77, 70, 80. **299:** *M Kuchar 77, 71, 73, 78; C Perry 73, 72, 74, 80 **300:** R Tway 75, 73, 78, 74, P Stewart 73, 75, 77, 75, O Browne 74, 74, 72, 80; J Daly 72, 76, 71, 81. 305: *T Immelman (SA) 72, 76, 78, 79.

* denotes amateur

AMY SANCETTA



Fitting finale: Mark O'Meara, the 1998 champion, helps Olazábal into the winners' green jacket after his popular two-stroke triumph at Augusta

Great drama and memorable strokes

Olazábal's composure over the closing stretch was combined with high skill and great courage

WHAT Lee Westwood said about the difficulty of the last nine holes at Augusta confirmed a Masters truism — that the pressure of a major championship combined with the perils of the homeward half mean that you are dancing with disaster.

Westwood, out in 33 on Sunday afternoon, had just taken a share of the lead. Now, he stood on the 10th tee, the highest point of the course, metaphorically on top of the world. It was only his third Masters and he had a chance of winning it. He looked down the plunging fairway, noted the wind that was causing the pine trees to his left to sway vigorously and shuddered. "I was so nervous my stomach was in knots," he said later. "It made me feel sick and I don't mind admitting it."

Sure enough, Augusta National slapped Westwood across the face. He dropped four strokes in the next three holes, but rallied by getting birdies on the 13th and 15th and finished in a tie for sixth place. To drop four strokes in three holes and then play the last six in two under par takes courage.

The 1999 Masters entered its crucial phase when Greg Norman and José Maria Olazábal, friends as well as rivals and the last two men on the course, arrived on the 13th tee. Olazábal was six under par after holing a 12ft putt on the 10th; Norman, who had been five under at the turn, had birdied the 11th but dropped a stroke on the 12th and was back to five under.

Others would flit in and out of the scene for the next 90 minutes, but, essentially, it was between Olazábal and Norman, the second time in four years that the Australian had been in direct competition with a European here.

On the 13th, Norman hit a booming tee shot with a three-wood, struck a four-iron to 25ft and sank the putt for an eagle three. As the ball disappeared, he raised his left hand and shot Olazábal a look. Norman was in the lead, but it was a lead that lasted less than a minute because Olazábal holed from 18ft for his birdie, raised a finger and flashed Norman a quick smile.

Olazábal took the lead on the 14th, where Norman three-putted from the fringe, and a one-stroke lead became two at the 15th, where Norman had to hit his third shot when there was some mud on the ball. It flew into a bunker and he took his second bogey of the half and fourth of the day. Up ahead, Davis Love III entered the reckoning by holing an outrageous chip at the 16th, his ball easing its way some 25ft down the slope before dropping into the hole to put him six under.

Olazábal's first devastating putt of this half was on the 13th. Now came his second. On the 16th, his six-iron landed well to the right of the flag and was brought round to 3ft past and above the hole by the green's contours. Olazábal may be one of the world's worst drivers, but he is one of the best putters. Norman hit a tentative putt from 7ft and missed, leaving Olazábal to hole his to open up a two-stroke lead.

"You can't imagine what a three-footer that was," Olazábal said. "Downhill, lightning quick, left to right. I don't know how the hell I made it."

But make it he did, just as he sank a six-footer for par on the rock-hard 17th green. Love failed to birdie either the 17th or 18th and Norman saw his birdie putt on the 17th graze the hole and run past.

So Olazábal held a two-stroke lead walking to the final tee. A par at the last meant that he had played the more difficult nine holes in 33, a score lower than any of his rivals. This was one reason why the Masters was his.

JOHN HOPKINS

Savouring the hole where it all happened



LYNNE TRUSS



At Augusta

On Sunday afternoon, just as the leaders were getting stuck in to the back nine. I had a failure of nerve at the 15th green. Was this the right moment to abandon this excellent grandstand spot overlooking the par five (with good views of the par-three 16) and make a dash for the 18th? I stood up. I sat down. I made a pathetic whining noise and studied my once-pristine pairings list, now brown and dog-eared from excessive handling in sultry conditions. Was that mildew? Or a bit of old egg sandwich? It did seem daft to go now, just as David Duval and Stewart Cink were approaching. Duval was three under and still in the running. I had no idea what to do.

The security man made my mind up for me. This nice Southern gent had been a good friend already — advising me (for example) not to sit where photographers gathered "because I wouldn't want them to hurt you". And now he said stay put, because "this is where it will all happen". So I sat down and checked the scoreboard once again. Leading at five under par were José Maria Olazábal, Steve Pate and Bob Estes; on four under were David Duval, Greg Norman, Davis Love III and Lee Janzen. Lee Westwood, who had shared the lead momentarily, had now dropped back to one under. I repeated the pathetic whining noise. In respect of drama — not to mention humidity — this was one of the closest days I had ever experienced.

Basically, there were too many things to look at, too many things to hear. Far-off roars and groans told you that something was happening somewhere, but not exactly what. We deduced quickly that the scoreboard on the 13th was updated more promptly than ours and that the roars from that vicinity sometimes concerned scores we didn't yet know about. All afternoon it was the same. An out-of-contention player would make his nifty third shot across our lake; meanwhile on the 16th, Jim Furyk might be making birdie on one of the most difficult greens in the world. But we just couldn't concentrate, because, up on the giant board, Greg Norman's score had been tilted back for adjustment and as it flipped back into view, we'd all shout "He birdied!" and then hold our breath until we found out what Olazábal had done as well.

Anyway, the security man was right. We saw Nick Price slip from contention at the 15th, after a fabulous 30-foot chip took him 3ft from the hole, and he missed the putt. Ernie Els had a double bogey — his approach shot not just missing the green but actually jumping into the lake right over on the 16th in a desperate "So long, cruel world" gesture. Tiger Woods made an elegant, understated birdie; David Duval narrowly missed an eagle; Steve Pate made birdie to keep him in contention at six under. And then, finally, along came Norman and Olazábal, over the ridge, in the last segment of their heroic battle.

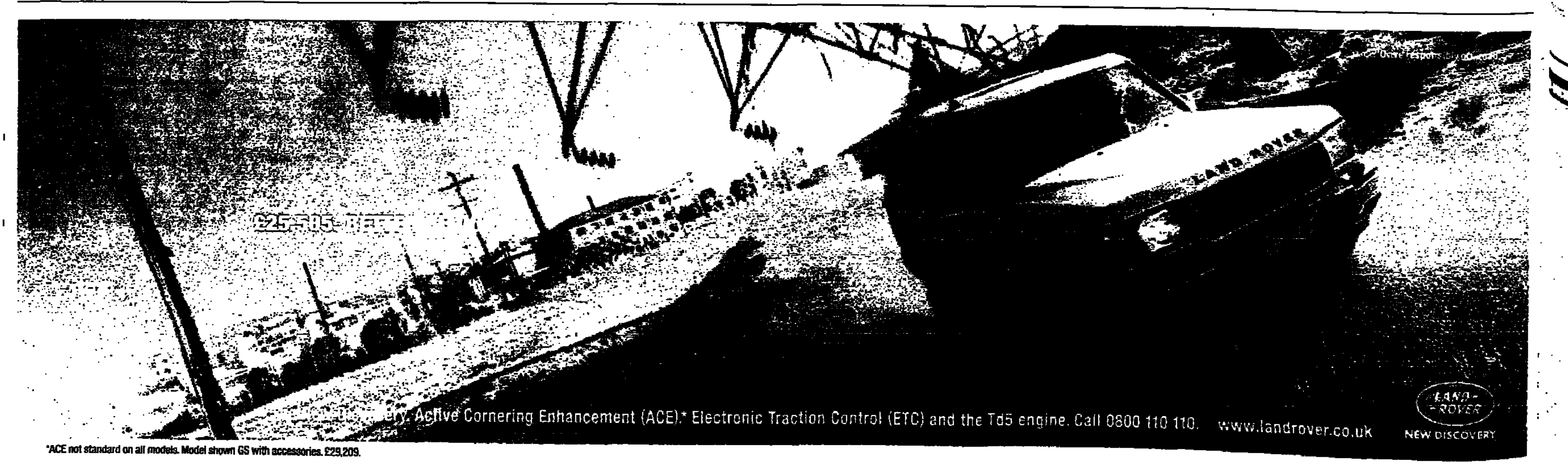
We had heard the roar from the 13th, of course. They'd have heard it in Atlanta. That was when Norman went to seven under — and into the lead — only for Olazábal's birdie to take him to seven under as well. On the 14th, Norman had dropped a stroke, but as the two men approached our hole at last (hoorah), Norman was emphatically still in it, tied in second place (at six under) with Love and Pate. Elsewhere, Pate slipped to five under. Good. Norman took his approach shot with a sand-wedge and landed up in the front bunker. We tried not to panic, but we knew: things didn't look promising for that wished-for Norman conquest. Olazábal was playing with his usual glacial slowness, but was thrillingly precise. He made par on the 15th, while Norman had a bogey. And at the 16th, Olazábal's tee-shot and brilliant three-foot birdie putt (as against Norman's par) won him the tournament. He was magnificent on that hole and, as far as the gallery was concerned, it was all over.

I feel I must report that the parallel tournament for most difficult hole at the Masters turned out much the same way. You may recall I was backing the 12th for sentimental reasons. Well, like Greg Norman, the 12th hole narrowly missed victory yet again and came in runner-up to the 4th — an easily overlooked contender, as it happens, much like Olazábal. Those flashier holes, the 17th and 15th (equivalent to Duval and Woods), finished third and fifteenth, tee-hee. Norman said on Sunday night that he felt 80 per cent success and 20 per cent failure. I hope the 12th is feeling much the same way (you were robbed, 12, you were brilliant!) and will similarly be determined to come back next year and do it all again.

KEVIN LAMARQUE



Norman embraces Olazábal on the 18th green after the Spaniard had holed out to claim his second Masters title



*ACE not standard on all models. Model shown GS with accessories. £29,209.

CRICKET

Medical assistance for county competition

By Geoffrey Dean

MAKING the earliest start in its 136-year history, the county championship gets under way today with the weather outlook none too promising. There was thunder yesterday over South London, where Surrey's game with Gloucestershire is one of five due to begin today. Another, Warwickshire v Northamptonshire, starts tomorrow.

The beleaguered England and Wales Cricket Board was able to announce yesterday that a new sponsor had been found for the championship. Private Patients Plan (PPP) will become only the third sponsor of the competition and although financial details of the four-year deal have yet to be disclosed, PPP's contributions will be significantly higher than those of its predecessor, Britannic Assurance.

Sponsorship will be strictly equal for both divisions when the championship splits next season and, notwithstanding the absence of many leading players until after the World Cup, it is the prospect of a keen struggle for places in the top flight that makes the competition this year likely to be more hard-fought than any in recent memory. Games between teams in the middle or lower reaches of the table in August and September have often lacked a strong, competitive edge. Now, such teams will have something tangible to play for.

Once again, the destination of the pennant looks a hard call. Leicestershire, the titleholders, can boast even greater strength in their seam department after the signing of Kasprowicz and it will not just be the Australian who will be anxious to perform well on his return to play against Essex, his former county, today, for James Whitaker, the captain, who was absent throughout all of last season, will be playing his first match since recovering from two knee operations.

Some might say that Leicestershire were successful last season because it was not a good one for spin, where supposedly they lack strength, but Brimson is an underrated performer and last season's haul of 31 wickets at 26 proves that he is more than a roller.

Yorkshire, who were third last year, would also prefer pitches that favour their battery of pace bowlers. If it is another wet summer, Yorkshire, with Blewett available for the whole season and the batting strengthened further by the signing of Harden, from Somerset, will take a lot of beating.

If the summer is dry and hot, particularly after the World Cup, Lancashire must be favourites, with Muralitharan available from June. Lancashire can make their runs quickly enough to give the remarkable Sri Lankan enough time to work his way through sides, particularly at Old Trafford, where some dust bowls can be expected.

More turning pitches could be seen at the Oval, particularly if Saqlain Mushtaq returns. Surrey are hoping that the Pakistan Board will release the off spinner from the Sahara Cup, when the last two championship fixtures will be played. Without such a pledge, Surrey would probably approach Brendon Julian, the Australia all-rounder.

Three other Australians will make their debuts today for new counties. Ian Harvey, the Victoria all-rounder, who has played 11 one-day internationals, is Gloucestershire's new overseas recruit; Michael DiVenuto, the Tasmanian, replaces Michael Bevan at Sussex; and Andrew Symonds, once selected for an England A tour after some dashing innings for Gloucestershire, will step out for Kent at Lord's.

Kent and Warwickshire must hope that their new captains, Matthew Fleming and Neil Smith, will be able to bring out the full potential of these teams to raise hopes of the title returning to Canterbury or Edgbaston.


Whitaker: captain returns


DANIEL KENNEDY

Early-season exertion: Alex Wharf, of Nottinghamshire, strives to make an impression at Trent Bridge yesterday

Loveridge seizes initiative

By Rupert Cox

TRENT BRIDGE (first day of three; Cambridge University won toss): Cambridge University have scored 209 for five wickets against Nottinghamshire

AFTER a steady decline in Nottinghamshire's fortunes, the capture of Clive Rice as cricket manager has raised expectations around Trent Bridge. The former captain, who had been so instrumental in rekindling the club's former glories during the Eighties, is the man charged with obtaining their first trophy since 1991.

In truth, with a promising young squad, a place in the top division of the championship next season may be a more realistic target. Nonetheless, given Rice's resolve and runs from his established batsmen, a one-day trophy may not be beyond them.

However, yesterday, at Trent Bridge, without their front-line seam attack, Nottinghamshire failed to press home their position of strength, having reduced the opponents to 89 for four. It allowed Derek Randall, Rice's former colleague, who is now coaching Cambridge University, to enjoy a measure of success on a day of fluctuating fortunes.

With the day shortened by squally showers — 105 minutes were lost — Cambridge, for the second match running, had the temerity to bat first on winning the toss. By the close, the visitors were indebted to a forthright unbroken stand of 111 in 21 overs between Greg Loveridge and Richard Halsall.

Loveridge, who made 126 on Saturday against Lancashire, struck the ball with an authority that transmitted itself to his partner, but, with their stand flourishing, a collision between Chris Read, the wicketkeeper, and Halsall, as he snatched a quick single, saw the latter depart with a leg injury.

Loveridge, who has played a Test match for New Zealand, struck 11 fours in his unbeaten 64 from 94 balls. Never afraid to hit through the line of the ball, his audacity prompted Halsall to follow suit and he cleared the pavilion with a straight six off Stemp during his 68-ball innings.

With the pitch a typical early-season slow seamer, the students had made a circumspect start before, in the eleventh over, David Lucas, a member of the England indoor team, claimed a maiden first-class wicket as Imraan Mohammed played across a full-length ball. Bowling his left-arm seamers into the wind, he maintained a commendable length to collect three for 54.

SCOREBOARD FROM TRENT BRIDGE

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY: First Innings

A R Danson c Johnson b Evans	17
I Mohammed lbw b Lucas	13
*Q J Hughes lbw b Lucas	30
J P Pyemont lbw b Lucas	13
G R Loveridge not out	64
R G Halsall retired hurt	55
†B J Collins c Read b Evans	0
K D M Walker not out	1
Extras (b 2, lb 4, w 4, nb 6)	16
Total (5 wkts, 64 overs)	209

C R Pimlott, C A Sayers and J P Lowe to bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-25, 2-51, 3-80, 4-89, 5-200.

BOWLING: Lucas 16-7-54-3, Wharf 14-2-48-0; Evans 15-4-52-2; Gallian 7-4-14-0, Stemp 12-5-35-0.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE: G E Welton, U Afzaal, *J E R Gallian, P Johnson, N A Gie, M P Dowman, †C M W Read, A G Wharf, K P Evans, D S Lucas, R D Stemp

Umpires: P Carrick and D J Constant.

SAILING

Another Around Alone boat drops out

By Edward Gorman
Sailing Correspondent

BRAD van Liew and his 50ft *Balance Bar* are the latest names to be added to the litany of disasters that have turned the Around Alone Race from a sporting event into a farce. The dismasting of *Balance Bar* just 90 miles out from Punte del Este brings to eight the number of entrants who have either been dismasted, capsized or run aground.

Looked at in another way, only eight of the 16 single-handers who set off from Charleston last September could be said to have been serious contenders, with the others either sailing slow, older boats or falling into the "dreamers and adventurers" category. Of those eight racers, five have now been dismasted, capsized or run aground.

Van Liew, a former commercial airline pilot from Los Angeles, had been tipped to do well on the 5,700-mile final leg back to Charleston in a boat optimised for upwind sailing. However, as he tracked just behind J. P. Mouligne, in *Cray Valley*, the runaway Class 2 leader, his boat fell off a wave and the mast came down from 6ft above the deck.

"I was down below and all of a sudden I could feel us falling into this big pothole," Van Liew reported yesterday, as he made his way under jury rig back to Punte. "The boat landed on its side. There was a big crack. It was a serious shock load, but nothing I hadn't seen before. The boom broke in two places, the mast in two or three places. My brand new staysail, my genoa, everything went over the side — it was an expensive boo-boo."

Van Liew's exit leaves only Mike Garside, of Great Britain, in *Magellan Alpha* still able to challenge Mouligne on this leg, but in the overall standings Garside is eight days adrift of the Frenchman, so an overall race victory looks possible only if Mouligne has the misfortune to join the long list of casualties in this demolition derby.


Garside: leader's only rival

BOWLS

Cumbrian four make point to selectors

By David Rhys Jones

AFTER Jack Coupland, who will be 85 in June, made his stand for the older generation of bowlers on Sunday, it was back to normal at Melton Mowbray yesterday, when the average age of the players in the national indoor fours final was a mere 28 years.

Paul Barlow, the Cumbrian lead, celebrated his 28th birthday by helping Steve Farish, Andy Baxter and Trevor Taylor to the title with a 24-14 win over Les Gillett and his Chipping Norton club-mates, Dale Hall, Andrew Martin and Alan Prew. Chipping Norton had beaten Coupland's Leicester in the quarter-finals.

Cumbria opened with a four and raced into a 15-6 lead by the tenth end, but then dropped a double, a single and a treble to allow the Oxfordshire quartet back into the game at 15-12. Spurred into action, Taylor's men crowded the jack on the next end, setting Gillett a big problem with his last bowl.

On line with an attacking shot, he seemed certain to save a count, but deflected off a short bowl and missed the jack by a fraction of an inch, leaving Cumbria with five shots that put them back in control at 20-12.

A Cumbrian double on the next end stretched the gap to ten shots and, when four singles were shared on the next four ends, the Chipping Norton players decided that they had had enough, and threw in the towel with two ends still left to play.

The form of all four Cumbrians, including Barlow, must have been noted by the the England selectors, who have previously awarded places to Farish, Baxter and Taylor and who now may feel that they have discarded them too soon.

Farish, who won the national outdoor singles title in 1992, last played in the international series four years ago, while Baxter and Taylor were dropped for this year's series in Bournemouth.

RESULTS: Fours: Final: P Barlow, S Farish, A Baxter, T Taylor (Cumbria) bt D Hale, A Martin, A Prew, L Gillett (Chipping Norton) 24-14. **Triples: First round:** Royal Tunbridge Wells (D Hanmore) bt Cammoggas (D Drew) 18-17, Blackpool Borough (N Burrows) bt Croydon (G Vigor) 29-4, Preston, Brighton (D Williams) bt Cyphers (T Beesley) 18-6, Worthing Pavilion (P Graysmark) bt Park Hall (B Liddington) 16-8, East Dorset (N Jones) bt Pinewood Park (D Toyn) 30-6, Teignbridge (R Johnson) bt Ryedale (N Brignall) 16-15; Grantham (D Auckland) bt Desborough, Maidenhead (G Oxtoby) 24-12; Kingsthorpe (P Reeves) bt Stevenage (G Warrender) 19-16, Barking (N Smith) bt Swindon Westlecot (I Jefferies) 19-18; Chipping Norton (L Gillett) bt Donyatt (M Denslow) 25-5, Falcon (D Gildersleeve) bt Cumbria (N Currie) 20-13, Avon Valley (G Moon) bt Melton Mowbray (D Welch) 19-15, Sudbury (M Grimwood) bt North Walsham (B Taylor) 19-10; Bridgwater BCL (D Fowkes) bt City of Ely (A Easy) 13-12; Stanley (J Laeman) bt Nottingham (B Morley) 17-15, Cambridge Park (G Little) bt Hartlepool (D Bell) 17-13

PETER WYNNE-THOMAS LOOKS AT THIS WEEK'S COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP MATCHES

DURHAM v WORCESTERSHIRE

Chester-le-Street, today

Overall: Played 7, Worcs won 4, Durham won 0.
First meeting: 1992.
Trends: Worcestershire won their last game of 1998, but this followed eight games without success — five losses and three draws. Durham's last win was on June 6 1998, since when they have lost seven matches and drawn four.
Recent meetings: Worcestershire won last year by 155 runs; in 1997, at this week's venue, Durham followed on 279 runs behind, then fought back for a draw.

ESSEX v LEICESTERSHIRE

Chelmsford, today

Overall: Played 142, Essex won 39, Leics won 35.
First meeting: 1895.
Trends: Essex suffered six successive defeats at the end of 1998, whereas Leicestershire won their last six matches, four by an innings, and went through 1998 undefeated. They have not been beaten since August 9 1997.
Recent meetings: Leicestershire won the 1998 fixture by an innings and 99 runs; Essex last beat Leicestershire at home in 1986.

LANCASHIRE v SUSSEX

Old Trafford, today

Overall: Played 182, Lancs won 74, Sussex won 41.
First meeting: 1869.
Trends: Lancashire won their final six matches of 1998; Sussex lost their last two games, but won three of the final six.
Recent meetings: Lancashire's only defeat in 1998 was at the hands of Sussex — the initial game of the summer. Sussex's last victory at Old Trafford came in 1992, when Neil Lenham and Alan Wells both hit hundreds.

MIDDLESEX v KENT

Lord's, today

Overall: Played 202, Kent won 71, Middlesex won 66.
First meeting: 1882.
Trends: Kent last won on August 7 1998, the last five games of 1998 producing three losses and two draws; Middlesex fared even worse, last winning on June 1 1998, their last 12 matches being eight losses and four draws.
Recent meetings: Kent won the 1998 game by four wickets, and they also won at Lord's in 1997, by just four runs.

SURREY v GLOUCESTERSHIRE

The Oval, today

Overall: Played 200, Gloucs won 50, Surrey won 90.
First meeting: 1870.
Trends: Although Surrey lost their final game in 1998, they won four of the last six matches; Gloucestershire won their last three games, and five out of the final six.
Recent meetings: The 1998 game gave Gloucestershire victory by two wickets. This occurred on July 24, when Surrey led the table with Gloucestershire in second place. Gloucestershire also won at the Oval in 1997; Surrey won the 1995 game there.

WARWICKSHIRE v NORTHANTS

Edgbaston, tomorrow

Overall: Played 147, Warwicks won 53, Northants won 24.
First meeting: 1905.
Trends: Northamptonshire ended 1998 with two victories, but these were preceded by five games without a win. Warwickshire had a mixed final month with three wins and two losses.
Recent meetings: Warwickshire won in 1998 by four wickets, Brian Lara scoring 158 and Tim Munton taking five for 41. The 1997 game at Edgbaston was drawn, but in 1995 Northamptonshire won by seven runs.

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 47

LAYETTE
(c) A complete outfit of garments, toilet articles and bedding for a new-born child. The French word.

MOSKER
(c) To decay or rot. To crumble or moulder away. Hence *moskered* and *moskering*. Yorkshire and Lincolnshire dialect. Of obscure origin.

LAPRON
(c) A young rabbit. Diminutive of the French *lapin* rabbit.

LAMPAD
(c) The seven "lamps of fire" burning before the throne of God, in Revelation iv. 5. The Greek for a lamp.

SOLUTION TO WINNING MOVE
1 ... Qxb2+! 2 Rxb2 Rc1 checkmate.

TODAY'S FIXTURES

FOOTBALL

Kick-off 7.30 unless stated
*denotes all-ticket

Nationwide League
First division
Bolton v Bristol City (8.0)
Bury v Sunderland (7.45)
Grimsby v QPR (7.45)
Port Vale v Bradford (7.45)
West Bromwich v Swindon (7.45)

Second division
Blackpool v Burnley
Bournemouth v Walsall (7.45)
*Fulham v Gillingham (7.45)
Lincoln v Reading (7.45)
Macclesfield v Chesterfield (7.45)
Northampton v York (7.45)
Notts County v Wrexham (7.45)
Oldham v Bristol Rovers (7.45)
*Wigan v Preston (7.45)

Third division
Brighton v Shrewsbury (7.45)
Cambridge Utd v Rochdale (7.45)
Carlisle v Hull (7.45)
Chester v Brentford
Exeter v Rotherham (7.45)
Leyton Orient v Plymouth (7.45)
Mansfield v Halifax (7.45)
Scunthorpe v Peterborough
Southend v Cardiff (7.45)
Swansea v Hartlepool (7.45)
Torquay v Barnet (7.45)

Nationwide Conference
Cheltenham v Kingstonian (7.45)
Hayes v Hednesford (7.45)
Leek v Welling (7.45)
Rushden & D v Yeovil (7.45)
Telford v Southport (7.45)

DR MARTENS LEAGUE: Premier division: Grantham v Hastings (7.45), Gresley v Rothwell (7.45), Halesowen v Ilkeston (7.45); King's Lynn v Atherstone (7.45). **Southern division:** Ashford v Brackley Town (7.45); Cirencester Town v Yate, Havant and Waterlooville v Chelmsford (7.45); Margate v Fleet Town (7.45); Newport IoW v Andover (7.45), Raunds Town v Corby, Tonbridge Angels v Witney (7.45). **Midland division:** Cinderford v Bloxwich Town (7.45). Clevedon v Hinckley Utd, Weston-super-Mare v Solihull Boro (7.45).

DR MARTENS CUP: Final, first leg: Cambridge City v Sutton Coldfield

UNIBOND LEAGUE: Premier division: Colwyn Bay v Worksop; Leigh RMI v Bamber Bridge; Marine v Runcorn, Spennymoor v Gainsborough; Whitby v Frickley (7.45); Winsford v Accrington Stanley. **First division:** Droylsden v Gretna; Eastwood Town v Farsley Celtic; Lincoln United v Whitley Bay; Radcliffe v Alfreton; Trafford v Albion. **Challenge Cup: Semi-finals:** Blyth Spartans v Guiseley; Stalybridge Celtic v Hucknall Town.

RYMAN LEAGUE: Premier division: Heybridge v Bromley; Slough v Aldershot Town (7.45), Sutton United v Gravesend, Walton and Hersham v Basingstoke (7.45). Carshalton v Hendon (7.45). **First division:** Chertsey v Canvey Island; Grays v Staines (7.45); Leyton Pennant v Maidenhead (7.45), Romford v Hitchin (at Purfleet, 7.45). Whyteleafe v Yeading (7.45). **Second division:** Banstead v Tooting and Mitcham (7.45). Edgware v Abingdon Town (7.45). Hertford v Wokingham (7.45), Horsham v Wivenhoe (7.45), Northwood v Hungerford (7.45), Thame Utd v Harlow (7.45); Windsor and Eton v Leighton Town (7.45). Witham v Met Police (7.45). **Third division:** Camberley Town v Ford Utd (7.45), Corinthian-Casuals v Tilbury (7.45); Hornchurch v Dorking (7.45).

THE TIMES FA YOUTH CUP: Sixth round: Nottingham Forest v Newcastle.

PONTIN'S LEAGUE: Premier division: Birmingham v Aston Villa (7.15); Liverpool v Leeds (7.0). **First division:** Coventry v Sheffield Wednesday (7.0)

LEAGUE OF WALES: Carmarthen Town v Afan Lido, Connah's Quay v Newtown; TNS v Conwy.

FAI HARP LAGER NATIONAL LEAGUE: Premier division: Finn Harps v Shamrock

IRISH LEAGUE COCA-COLA LEAGUE CUP: Semi-finals: Cliftonville v Linfield (at Windsor Park), Glentoran v Carrick (at Seaview)

FA PREMIER ACADEMY LEAGUE UNDER-17: Play-offs, first round: Coventry v Crewe (2.30).

SCHWEPPES ESSEX SENIOR LEAGUE: Premier division: Hullbridge Sports v Bowers United.

COMPLETE MUSIC HELLENIC LEAGUE: Premier division: Didcot v Abingdon.

ARNOTT INSURANCE NORTHERN LEAGUE: League Cup: Semi-final: Morpeth Town v Dunston Federation.

GILBERT LEAGUE CUP: Semi-final: Barry v Inter Cable-Tel.

SCREWFIX DIRECT LEAGUE: Premier division: Backwell v Bristol Manor Farm, Bishop Sutton v Keynsham, Elmore v Yeovil TR (7.45); Melksham v Mangotsfield Utd; Paulton R v Brislington, Tiverton v Bridgwater, Westbury v Calne (7.45)

JEWSON EASTERN COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Diss v Warboys (7.45). Ely v Gorleston (7.45); Lowestoft v Sudbury Wanderers (7.45), Maldon v Harwich and Parkeston (7.45), Newmarket v Wroxham (7.45); Woodbridge Town v Fakenham (7.45)

RUGBY UNION

Allied Dunbar Premiership
First division
Wasps v Northampton (7.45)

Jewson National League
Second division north
Nuneaton v Lichfield (7.30)

AIB LEAGUE: Second division: Ballynahinch v Dungannon (7.0)

CRICKET

PPP Healthcare county championship
11.0, first day of four
104 overs minimum
CHESTER-LE-STREET: Durham v Worcestershire
CHELMSFORD: Essex v Lancashire
OLD TRAFFORD: Lancashire v Sussex
LORD'S: Middlesex v Kent
THE OVAL: Surrey v Gloucestershire

University match
11.30, second day of three
TRENT BRIDGE: Nottinghamshire v Cambridge University

BUPA Great North Run 99
Under IAAF Rules

Sunday 10 October

ENTRY FORM

Surname/Family name:
First name(s) in full:
Address:
Postcode:
Date of birth: DAY MONTH YEAR
Daytime telephone number:

Please consult the conditions of entry at the foot of the page and tick the boxes below that are relevant to you.
Are you a female entrant?
Do you have a medical condition about which the organisers should be informed?
Indicate your T-shirt size in the relevant box. Small (38") Medium (42") Large (46")
Estimated running time hours mins
Are you a self-propelled wheelchair entrant?
Do you have an overseas mailing address?
Would you like to purchase a copy of the BUPA Great North Run Training Supplement (£1.25 inc p&p)?
Would you like to purchase a copy of the BUPA Great North Run Results Supplement (£1.50 inc p&p)?

Would you like more information about SPARKS, BUPA's official charity for the BUPA Great North Run?
Would you like 2 tickets to the Great North Pasta Party (£2)?
Would your participation story be of interest to readers of local newspapers?
There have been 18 Great North Runs. How many have you run?
Running club if applicable
Please contact me with information on BUPA Health Cover.
Please contact me with information on BUPA Health Screening.
Sign the form, enclose your cheque and post to: 1999 BUPA Great North Run, 1 Leisure Court, Temple Park Leisure Centre, South Shields, NE34 8QN.
Cheques should be made payable to BUPA Great North Run with your name and address printed clearly on the reverse.

Closing date 10th May

Hotline: 01538 702 100

PAYMENT DETAILS
BUPA Great North Run Entry £18.00
BUPA Great North Run Training Supplement £1.25
BUPA Great North Run Results Supplement £1.50
2 tickets to the Great North Pasta Party £2.00
TOTAL amount enclosed £
All entries will be acknowledged by the organisers.

DISCLAIMER
I accept all the conditions of entry overleaf and acknowledge that the organisers shall not be liable for death, personal injury, or loss or damage as a consequence of my participation in the BUPA Great North Run, except with regard to personal injury which is caused by the organiser's negligence.

Signature

THE TIMES SPARKS NISSAN

Conditions of Entry & Race Instructions

RUGBY UNION: WOODWARD MUST WORK ON WEAKNESSES EXPOSED BY CELTIC TRIUMPHS

England forced to regroup

By David Hands
Rugby Correspondent

AS THE Five Nations Championship was laid to rest over the weekend, it was not only Scotland and Wales who had cause to rejoice. The championship has given rugby union throughout the British Isles a massive fillip, upon which the clubs can capitalise as the domestic season approaches a climax and which will surely prove of benefit in the autumn, when the fourth World Cup begins.

Scotland duly received the championship trophy at Murrayfield last night, apt reward for a brand of rugby that has brought 16 tries in their four matches — twice the number scored by England, the runners-up — and established a record of 120 points, 30 more than their highest previous aggregate, in 1997. Their enterprise has provided a country still riven over the future of its leading clubs with a focal point of inestimable value.

The same is true for Wales, though Graham Henry, their coach and ever the realist, gave warning that the southern hemisphere will have taken due note before arriving for the World Cup. Forewarned is forearmed and Henry will tell his players that, however heroic their last-minute win over England on Sunday, they have won nothing yet of substance.

He will beat his players with the rod of points leaked. 126 of them, which is more than Wales have ever conceded in the championship, but Henry has reminded not only his squad but also an entire country of their heritage and of what is possible in the new professional era. Wales can warm themselves with self-respect and the regard of others. At this stage of their development, that is enough.



Clive Woodward, the England coach, is also a hard man to ignore. He and his players retreated to a private dinner on Sunday night and Woodward emerged yesterday morning to assert that his team is in good shape.

"I don't think any team in the world will be keen to play England," Woodward said. "Ever since I took this job, I have been determined to get England to the World Cup in a state where we can beat any side. I don't think previous sides have done that.

"We won't lose to the All Blacks by 40 or 50 points. In 1991, England lost to a poor All Blacks side in the opening match, might have lost to Scotland in the semi-finals and lost the final. In 1995, they were stuffed by the All Blacks. I believe this side now is right up there with the top sides in the world in the way we are playing, the squad we have and the potential we can add to it."

This is a view shared by critics in the southern hemisphere, but Wales did England a favour by winning at Wembley. It was a sharp reminder of English inadequacies: that they are not a world-beating force in the set-pieces, that they do not score the points their approach-work suggests that they should and that their back division still needs definition.

> 'Wales may have done them a favour by reminding them of their inadequacies'

The prospect of Woodward being able to take Will Greenwood and Paul Grayson — who started the season as his first-choice centre and fly half — to Australia in May for the month-long training camp is remote. Greenwood, who has not played for six months, hopes to test his groin injury in a fortnight, but Woodward is not optimistic. Northampton do not believe that Grayson will be ready to train until July after suffering a stress fracture of his pubic bone.

In their absence, the shape of the midfield has changed. The defence has improved, but it is not impregnable, as Scotland and Wales have shown. In attack, individuals have been isolated too easily and only limited use has been made of Matt Perry from full back.

Mike Catt has had his moments and Jonny Wilkinson has fitted into the side with astonishing maturity for a 19-year-old, but the England back division will not frighten thepowers from the southern hemisphere.

In his defence, Woodward can claim justifiably that, because of injuries, there has not been a match in the past 18 months when he could pick from the best players at his disposal. This has given Wilkinson his chance, as it has Steve Hanley — who will be out for a month after breaking his wrist during his try-scoring debut against Wales — Dan Luger and Barrie-Jon Mather.

Woodward is two-thirds of the way towards the ambitious style that he seeks. He has internationals against Australia, Canada and the United States in which to build on the principles he has laid down, plus two warm-up games in September against domestic opposition. The players he wants will be available to him on a more or less continual basis from May through to October 2, when England's World Cup begins against Italy. It has to be enough for him.

Dallaglio to sit out vital clash

By David Hands

LAWRENCE DALLAGLIO, the England captain, will rest from his labours tonight when Wasps meet Northampton at Loftus Road in the Allied Dunbar Premiership, a match crucial to the hopes of both clubs in terms of qualification for Europe. Northampton, still with games in hand, also maintain their pursuit of Leicester at the top of the first division.

Dallaglio is recovering from the rigours of Sunday's Five Nations Championship epic against Wales, but he is in better shape than his Wasps colleagues, Kenny Logan and Rob Henderson. They returned from weekend internationals with Scotland and Ireland with a damaged ankle and a broken nose respectively. Indeed, Henderson received such a bad knock against Italy that he may not play again until the end of the month.

Their places go to Shane Roiser and Mark Denney, with Eben Rollitt replacing Dallaglio in the back row and Andy Reed joining Simon Shaw at lock, in the absence of Mark Weedon, the Wasps captain, who has damaged an elbow. There is also a change at scrum half, where Mike Friday replaces Martyn Wood.

"We want to keep the momentum going and it will be a tough challenge," Nigel Melville, the Wasps director of rugby, said. He is mindful of the fact that he has an equally hard game with Newcastle on Sunday, which may be a dress rehearsal for the Tetley's Bitter Cup final next month but is also vital to Newcastle's hopes of European competition.

Northampon have named a squad of 23, including their own international players from England and Scotland, but their starting line-up will not be confirmed until today. Physical checks will be made on Tim Rodber and Matt Dawson, of England, and on Budge Pountney, who shared in Scotland's triumph in Paris on Saturday.

Ian McGeechan, the Northampton director of rugby, said: "In some ways, the best thing for them could be to play this game, but it's asking a lot of them after a weekend like they have had."



Not applicable to calls made to or from Mobile phones. All rates are correct at time of publication and can change at any time. All prices include VAT.

TELEVISION CHOICE

Round the world in 19 days

The Mission: The Great Balloon Race
BBC1, 10.35pm (Northern Ireland, 11.20pm)

A special edition of *The Mission* recounting the extraordinary tale of the round-the-world balloon flight undertaken by Brian Jones and Bertrand Piccard aboard the *Breitling Orbiter 3*. On March 21 this year, Briton Jones and the Swiss Piccard stepped out of their capsule and into the history books as the first men successfully to complete the non-stop circumnavigation of the globe in a balloon. This film follows the entire project, with behind-the-scenes footage, insights into the preparation for the event and a look at the competition with Richard Branson, whose previous attempts at the challenge had failed. It also records the trip itself, documenting the countless obstacles that the entire team had to overcome. A fascinating adventure. **Ian Hughes**


The balloonists Bertrand Piccard and Brian Jones: *The Mission* (BBC1, 10.35pm)

Queer As Folk
Channel 4, 10.30pm

Russell T. Davies's eight-part drama series ends fairly neatly, with the under-age Nathan running off to London, accompanied by his friend Donna. Meanwhile, it looks as though nothing will ever break the unspoken bond between Stuart and Vince. Constant exposure to the self-centredness of Stuart, Vince and Nathan, all selflessly played by Aidan Gillen, Craig Kelly and Charlie Hunnam, has meant that this viewer's sympathies, when in play at all, have been with minor characters such as Hazel (Denise Black), Roy (Paul Copley) and Romey (Esther Hall). I am not sure whether I would wish to renew acquaintance with the three principals, but I wish to know what happens next. Is another series on the way?

Supernatural
BBC1, 8.30pm

I continue to disagree with both the title and much of the commentary of this series, the work of the writer/producer John Downer, but I cannot deny that it is beautifully crafted and a pleasure to watch. Among the prodigies of nature (and not supernatural phenomena) on show tonight are the ladybirds which infallibly predict the severity of winter weather; creatures as disparate as elephants, catfish and tarantulas anticipating earthquakes. Plus, a look at how lunar tides seem to occur in plants, just as they do in bodies of water (not actually such a far-fetched idea, when you think about it). The photography, whether real or virtual, is stunning; the arguments much less mesmerising. Good for provoking spirited debate.

Betting: Are You Being Cheated?
Channel 5, 8pm

Nick Hudson's ITN film is a less-than-comprehensive look at shady dealings in the horse racing and greyhound racing worlds: from an unlicensed on-course bookie who ran off with punters' bets at the Epsom Derby meeting, to a very foolhardy chap who actually changed the greyhound results as printed in the *Racing Post* (he was working there at the time). Along the way John McCririck, Channel 4's irritating tic-tac man, gives us some very cautious readings of races in which jockeys have been alleged not to have tried hard enough, or where horses have been found to have been tranquillised. **Tony Patrick**

RADIO CHOICE

Afternoon Play: Summoned by Shelves
Radio 4, 2.15pm

It is only minimally important that this marvellously mad play, written by Lynne Truss of *The Times*, was recorded in an old timber-framed library somewhere in North London. It would have proved no less of a hoot if the producer Brian King had transported his cast and technicians to a bus shelter somewhere in Dulwich. I don't much like the weak Betjemanic pun in the title. The play is set in a university library and the plot is propelled by such bibliographical considerations as which volumes should dwell on which shelves. There are smashing performances all round, especially Rachel Atkins's unwittingly disruptive teenager and John Rowe's chief librarian whose appetite for her is catalogued under L for lust.

Euro Sleaze: File on 4 Special
Radio 4, 8pm

In one way or another, *File on 4* has earned itself the reputation of being the scourge of the European Commission and the investigative series shows no signs of hanging up the whip. The scourger-in-chief is the reporter Richard Watson. He first went into action in Brussels in January 1998 when he revealed that the Commission was secretly being investigated for fraud involving agricultural projects. Allegations were also made about fraud in the awarding of tourism contracts to companies which were themselves being investigated for fraud. After last month's damning report by MEPs which caused the entire Commission to pack their bags, Watson is back in Brussels. **Peter Davalle**

RADIO 1 (BBC)

6.30am Zoe Ball **9.00** Simon Mayo **12.00** Jo Whiley **3.00pm** Chris Moyles **5.45** Newsbeat **6.00** Dave Pearce **8.00** The Evening Session **10.00** Digital Update **10.10** John Peel **12.00** The Breezeblock **2.00am** Clive Warren **4.00** Scott Mills

RADIO 2 (BBC)

6.00am Sarah Kennedy **7.30** Wake up to Wogan **9.30** Richard Allinson **12.00** Jimmy Young **2.00pm** Ed Stewart **5.05** Johnnie Walker **7.00** Carl Davis Classics (2/13) **8.00** Nigel Ogden **9.00** Wall Street Blues. Dick Vosburgh presents a portrait of the American Depression **10.00** Whicker's New World (3/7) **10.30** Lynn Parsons **12.00** Katrina Leskanich **3.00am** Alex Lester

RADIO 5 LIVE (BBC)

5.00am Morning Reports **6.00** Breakfast **9.00** Nicky Campbell **12.00** The Midday News **1.00pm** Ian Payne. Live news and sports reports of the day. Plus, commentary from day one of the Craven meeting in Newmarket, including the Nell Gwyn Stakes **4.00** Drive **7.00** News Extra **7.30** The Tuesday Match. Including two Division One fixtures — Bury v Sunderland and Port Vale v Bradford **10.00** Late Night Live **1.00am** Up All Night

TALK RADIO

6.00am The Big Boys Breakfast **9.00** Scott Chisholm & Sally James **12.00** Crime Fighters **1.00pm** Anna Raeburn **4.00** The Sports Zone **7.00** The World of Formula 1 **8.00** Cheating Hearts with Jayne Irving **10.00** James Whale **1.00am** Ian Collins

VIRGIN

6.30am The Breakfast Show **9.30** Russ Williams **1.00pm** Nick Abbot **4.00** Harriet Scott **6.45** Pete and Geoff **10.00** Gary Davies **1.00am** Richard Allen **4.30** Phil Kennedy

BBC WORLD SERVICE

5.00am The World Today **6.00** The World Today **7.00** World News **7.15** Outlook **7.55** My Century **8.00** World News **8.05** World Business Report **8.15** Insight **8.30** On Screen **9.00** World News **9.05** Performance **9.20** Off the Shelf: News Of A Kidnapping **9.35** Discovery **10.00** World News **10.05** The Moonstone **10.20** The U.K. Top Twenty **10.50** Sports Round-Up **11.00** Newsdesk **11.30** Britain Today **11.45** World Business Report **12.00** Newsdesk **12.30pm** Omnibus **1.00** World News **1.05** Outlook **1.45** Sports Round-Up **2.00** Newshour **3.00** World News **3.05** Discovery **3.30** On Screen **4.00** World News **4.05** Sports Round-Up **4.15** Westway **4.30** Everywoman **5.00** Europe Today **5.30** World Business Report **5.45** Insight **6.00** Newsdesk **6.30** Going South **6.45** Sports Round-Up **7.00** World News **7.15** Britain Today **7.30** Omnibus **8.00** World News **8.05** Discovery **8.30** Soundbyte **8.45** Off the Shelf. News Of A Kidnapping **9.00** Newshour **10.00** World News **10.05** World Business Report **10.20** Britain Today **10.30** Meridian Live **11.00** World News **11.15** Sports Round-Up **11.30** Jazzmatazz **12.00** World News **12.05am** Outlook **12.45** Insight **1.00** The World Today **1.30** Discovery **1.55** My Century **2.00** The World Today **2.30** On Screen **3.00** The World Today **3.30** World Business Report **3.45** Insight **4.00** The World Today **4.20** Sports Round-Up **4.30** The World Today

CLASSIC FM

6.00am Nick Bailey's Easier Breakfast. Soothing music and information updates **8.00** Henry Kelly. The Hall of Fame Hour and CD of the Week **12.00** Lunchtime Requests. Jane Jones introduces listeners' favourites **2.00pm** Concerto. Mozart (Sinfonia Concertante in E flat major) **3.00** Jamie Crick. Continuous Classics and Afternoon Romance **6.30** Newsnight. Sport, finance and news updates, with John Brunning **7.00** Smooth Classics at Seven. John Brunning introduces classical sounds **9.00** Evening Concert. Bax (Overture to Adventure); Moeran (Symphony in G minor), Gordon Jacob (Symphony No 2 in C major); Vaughan Williams (Variations for Orchestra) **11.00** Mann at Night. Music through till the small hours **2.00am** Concerto. Mozart (Sinfonia Concertante in E flat major) (r) **3.00** Mark Griffiths. The Early Breakfast Show

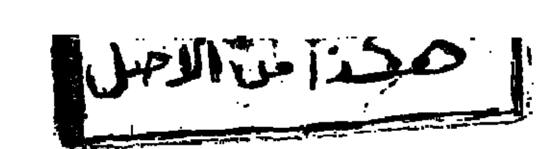
RADIO 3

6.00am On Air Petroc Trelawny presents music and arts news, including a report on the *Bafta* awards
9.00 Masterworks With Peter Hobday. Tchaikovsky (String Quartet No 1 in D, Op 11); Bizet (Flower Song, Carmen); Bartok (Piano Concerto No 1); Kodaly (Symphony)
10.30 Artist of the Week: Moura Lympany
11.00 Sound Stories: Architects Peggy Reynolds remembers the theatre designer Frank Matcham
12.00 Composer of the Week: J.C. Bach
1.00pm The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert The second of eight recitals given last year at St George's, Brandon Hill, Bristol, featuring music with a strong American bias. Lyric Quartet. William Hawkes, viola. William Bolcom (Three Rags. Gershwin, Lullaby), Dvorak (String Quartet in E flat, Op 97) (r)
2.00 The BBC Orchestras BBC Philharmonic. Beethoven (Symphony No 5 in C minor); Brahms (Violin Concerto in D); Enescu (Symphony No 1)
4.00 Voices Iain Burnside traces changes in songs written before and after the Great War (r)
5.00 In Tune Humphrey Carpenter's guests include musicians appearing at the Halifax Young Musicians Chamber Music Festival
7.30 Performance on 3: Endless Parade A celebration of the music of Michael Tippett. Anthony Rolfe Johnson, tenor, David Barrell, baritone, Craig Ogden, guitar, Nash Ensemble under Martyn Brabbins. Tippett (Sonata for four horns; Songs for Achilles; Suite: The Ice Break, arr Bowen; The Blue Guitar; Suite, The Tempest, arr Bowen)
9.30 Postscript: Seamus Heaney at 60 — Whatever You Say, Say Nothing (2/5)
9.50 Mass in Time of War Two motets by Kodaly, and his *Missa brevis*, written while the composer hid in the cellar of a Budapest convent during the darkest days of the Second World War. Conductor Simon Joly, Margaret Phillips, organ (r)
11.00 Night Waves How can a country composed of the perpetrators and victims of genocide create a cohesive society? That is the question at the heart of Philip Gourevitch's chilling account of conflict in Rwanda and its legacy. Richard Coles talks to Gourevitch about his account of the psychological and political challenges of survival
11.30 Jazz Notes More from the Best of British Jazz Band, with singer Annie Ross
12.00 Through the Night 12.05 Bach, orch Webern (Ricercar (A Musical Offering, BWV1079) **12.15** J.C. Bach (Quintet in F, Op 11 No 3) **12.25** Brahms (Meine Liebe Ist Grun; Wie Melodien zieht es mir) **12.30** Schumann (Cello Concerto in A minor) **1.00** An early music concert by Compagnie Vocale **2.05** Prokofiev (Suite Lieutenant Kije) **2.25** Ravel (Violin Sonata) **2.50** Dupre (Versets on Ave maris stella, Op 18 No 6) **3.00** Bruckner (Symphony No 2 in C minor) **4.00** Tchaikovsky (Six Pieces, Op 19); Weber (Clarinet Quintet in B flat, Op 34)

RADIO 4

5.30am World News 5.35 Shipping Forecast
5.40 Inshore Forecast 5.45 Prayer for the Day
5.47 Farming Today Charlotte Smith presents
6.00 Today with Sue MacGregor and James Naughtie
9.00 Between Ourselves New series of discussions about shared experiences. Two surrogate mothers talk to Olivia O'Leary about the ethics and realities of having babies for childless couples
9.30 Song Lines David Stafford reveals the origins of socialist anthem *The Red Flag* (4/5) (r)
9.45 (LW) Daily Service Director of music Paul Leddington Wright
9.45 (FM) Serial: Choice Chatwin Susannah Clapp reads from *On the Black Hill*, by Bruce Chatwin
10.00 Woman's Hour with Martha Kearney and guests. Includes *Diary of a Provincial Lady*
11.00 Tales from the Back of Beyond The ecologist Alayne Cotterill catches leopards with the Army during a wildlife management exercise in Zimbabwe
11.30 How Tickled Am I? Mark Radcliffe celebrates the career of little Jimmy Clitheroe, who starred in the longest-running situation comedy on radio (2/6)
12.00 (LW) News Headlines; Shipping Forecast
12.00 (FM) News 12.04pm You and Yours Topical consumer news and investigations, with Mark Whittaker and Trixie Rawlinson
1.00 The World at One Presented by Nick Clarke
1.30 The Musical Side of the Family The Countess of Harewood reflects on her involvement with some of the greatest names in the world of music, including Maria Callas and Benjamin Brittens (6/6)
2.00 The Archers Broadcast yesterday (r)
2.15 Afternoon Play: Summoned by Shelves The *Times* columnist Lynne Truss's comedy about an ordered library that descends into anarchy. Starring Rachel Atkins, Douglas Hodge and Sam West. See Choice (r)
3.00 The Exchange: 0870 010 0444 Listeners' views on a topical issue
3.30 A Name to Remember Barbara Myers explores the work of Thomas Addison (2/5)
3.45 This Sceptred Isle Anna Massey narrates part 72 of the history of Britain (r)
4.00 A Good Read The climber Jim Perrin and the writer Marina Warner discuss their favourite paperbacks with Sarah LeFanu
4.30 Shop Talk Presented by Heather Payton
5.00 PM with Clare English and Rosie Millard
6.00 Six O'Clock News
6.30 I'm Glad You Asked Me That Offbeat guide to modern living, with Michael Bywater, Sean Meo and Philip Pope (3/6)
7.00 The Archers William makes the ultimate sacrifice
7.15 Front Row John Wilson discusses memorable film music
7.45 Diary of a Provincial Lady Broadcast earlier as part of *Woman's Hour* (r)
8.00 Euro Sleaze: File on Four Special See Choice
8.40 In Touch Peter White presents news for visually impaired people
9.00 Case Notes Graham Easton takes a look at the heart and circulatory system
9.30 Between Ourselves Broadcast earlier (r)
10.00 The World Tonight with Justin Webb
10.45 Book at Bedtime: Archangel by Robert Harris. Read by Alan Howard. Part seven
11.00 Late Night on 4: The Now Show Stand-up comedy and sketches (r)
11.30 (FM) Talking Pictures Film news and reviews
11.30 (LW) Today in Parliament Round-up of the day's events in Westminster
12.00 News 12.30am The Late Book: Earthly Joys Kevin Whately reads part seven of Philippa Gregory's novel
12.48 Shipping Forecast 1.00 As World Service

FREQUENCY GUIDE. RADIO 1. FM 97.6-99.8. **RADIO 2.** FM 88.0-90.2. **RADIO 3.** FM 90.2-92.4. **RADIO 4.** FM 92.4-94.6; LW 198; MW 720. **RADIO 5 LIVE.** MW 693, 909. **WORLD SERVICE.** MW 648; LW 198 (12.45-5.55am). **CLASSIC FM.** FM 100-102. **VIRGIN RADIO.** FM 105.8; MW 1197, 1215. **TALK RADIO.** MW 1053, 1089.
Television and radio listings compiled by Perry Cleveland-Peck, Ian Hughes, Gillian Maxey, Jane Gregory and Barry O'Keefe



Dickens served up with no added sugar

I have never understood why film and television adaptations have chosen to lumber Charles Dickens with the image of a cloying old sentimentalist.

The reality is that Dickens was a sharp and acerbic social chronicler, a brilliant observational journalist whose characters were red-raw with realism when he put them on the page, only to be turned into loveable rogues and heart-in-the-right-place molls when they came to the screen.

This unhappy image manipulation at last gets its comeuppance in **Great Expectations** (BBC2), Tony Marchant's new adaptation which began last night and concludes tonight. The talk has been that Marchant, and the director Julian Jarrold, will upset the purists. Tosh. The only people who will be upset by this are those who have become accustomed to Dickens served lukewarm with too much sugar stirred in.

Marchant and Jarrold have done a brilliant job. I was ready for part one to be slow-moving, not least because BBC classic adaptations have that habit. But pace should not imply speed and there is plenty of the former here. On the few occasions when the plot development flags there are rewarding diversions to be had in the study of mood and the development of character.

The story of Pip and his journey from rags to riches, from orphan boy to smooth professional, is one of the best in the Dickens canon. The nominal tale is interesting but it is only a vehicle for an exploration of many of lifes compelling themes, such as love, ambition, abuse and the manipulation of one human being by another.

Marchant's screenplay gets to all these matters with panache and a deft avoidance of sentiment, a fact that will fill Dickens with joy if by any chance he can get BBC television in his present location. Jarrold has matched the honest bleakness of the script by filming the countryside scenes in washed-out colour, whereas the London settings are more obviously colourful: a nice touch which sends the message that Pip has a brighter urban prospect.

And so to Charlotte Rampling as Miss Havisham, the jilted recluse who is the central manipulator in the piece. Havisham is every man's nightmare, a woman with a long memory, and Rampling is simply outstanding in the part, playing Miss Havisham much younger than all previous screen incarnations and with an understatement that makes the character all the more convincing.

Television documentaries can be annoying and they can be interesting but not all that often are they annoying and interesting.

REVIEW



Peter Barnard

The return of **Equinox** (Channel 4) last night with a programme called *Living Dangerously* showed that being annoyed enough to want to switch off but interested enough to want to stay tuned doesn't half play havoc with your equilibrium.

Essentially the show was about risk-takers: why do they do it? And it was about the flipside of risk-taking: why are some people frightened even to go out? The usual suspects were rounded up, including a couple of guys called John and Elliott who enjoy jumping off buildings, bridges, cliffs. I would not be seen dead doing any of that. Well, I would, but dead is the only way.

The most interesting person in the programme was Dr Yu, a Canadian biochemist. Dr who? No, Dr Yu (that seems to be his entire name, like Dr No). Dr Yu did a study of violent prisoners from which he discovered that the lower the level of an enzyme called mono amine oxidase — try that at Scrabble — in a person's body, the more likely that person was to want to take risks. Why, Yu? "We were very excited by these findings," Dr Yu said, "but we really don't quite understand what that means to us."

Oh well. The part of the programme that got me annoyed was when it started dealing with everyday risk using statistics. The notion postulated here was that perceived risk is all got up by the media. For illustration we were told that 15 people are likely to die each year from new variant CJD (the human version of BSE) whereas four times as many people drown in the bath.

What have the two things got to do with each other? Should the media have stopped publicising the fact that eating sick cows could kill human beings and start a campaign to prevent people washing themselves except under the supervision of Duncan Goodhew? Unrelated statistics are the last resort of the television documentary and *Equinox* is far too good to have to bother with such devices.

Which leaves scant space to mention **Mystery of the Mummies**, first of a three-part series on Channel 4 about lost civilisations. Last night's was a sumptuously filmed and carefully constructed tale of the Guanches, a cave dwelling people who lived in the Canary Islands. The fact that they mummified their dead suggested an Egyptian connection which Dr Joann Fletcher, an Egyptologist, and Mike Eddy, an archaeologist, set out to prove.

The film followed them, from the Canaries to Morocco to a slab at Addenbrooke's Hospital, where we had a look at a mummy. It was in wonderful condition. It turns out to be only 600 years old, one of the youngest mummies around. And the Canaries-Africa link is proven by the way the mummies had been bound and stored and from evidence, in Morocco, of human occupation and burial sites similar to those of the Guanches. We didn't hear what the mummy died of: probably tripped over a joint of beef on the bone and fell down the stairs.

BBC1

6.00am Business Breakfast (59435)
7.00 BBC Breakfast News (T) (28232)
9.00 Kilroy (T) (9098690)
9.45 Can't Cook, Won't Cook (T) (714665)
10.15 The Vanessa Show (T) (5340954)
11.00 News; Weather (T) (5886394)
11.05 City Hospital (T) (9096023)
11.55 News; Weather (T) (4045446)
12.00 Going for a Song (6833333)
12.25pm Wipeout (8839918)
12.50 The Weather Show (T) (76854955)
1.00 One O'Clock News (T) (38619)
1.30 Regional News; Weather (58924400)
1.40 Neighbours (T) (16182597)
2.05 Ironside (r) (1070955)
2.55 Through the Keyhole (r) (T) (2039110)
3.25 Children's BBC: Playdays (8476394) **3.45** Arthur (2536232) **4.10** Rugrats (1380416) **4.20** Julia Jekyll and Harriet Hyde (5843706) **4.35** G Force (7471139) **5.00** Newsround (5403936) **5.10** Trading Places (2337435)
5.33 Rewind (T) (381503)
5.35 Neighbours (r) (T) (604110)
6.00 Six O'Clock News; Weather (T) (684)
6.30 Regional News Magazine (936)
7.00 Holiday Rio de Janeiro, a weekend break in Jerusalem, an all-inclusive trip to Tenerife and the delights of historic Cambridge. Last in series (T) (6961)
7.30 EastEnders (T) (348)
8.00 Animal Hospital Rolf Harris returns to the RSPCA Animal Hospital in Putney, southwest London (T) (9481)



A fire ant, a creature with a strange affinity with electricity (8.30pm)

8.30 CHOICE **Supernatural: The Unseen Powers of Animals** An investigation into how animals use magnetism and electricity for a variety of purposes (T) (1416)
9.00 Nine O'Clock News; Regional News; Weather (T) (338684)
9.35 Jailbirds An emotional six-months pregnant 17-year-old arrives at New Hall women's prison (T) (342400)
10.05 The Vicar of Dibley The Songs of Praise crew pay a visit (r) (T) (952936)
10.35 CHOICE **The Mission: The Great Balloon Race** The first successful round-the-world balloon flight (r) (T) (791665)
11.25 Billy Connolly's World Tour of Australia Highlights from the comic's trip Down Under (r) (T) (473042)
12.05am A Passion for Murder (1992) FILM A cab driver gets involved with a woman who is mixed up in the mysterious death of her politician lover. With Joanna Pacula. Directed by Neill Fearnley (1332337)
1.30 Weather (2109511)
1.35 BBC News 24 (86850443)

WALES

9.30-9.35 Party Election Broadcast (682665)
1.30am-1.35 News Headlines (2109511)

BBC2

7.00am Children's BBC Breakfast Show: Polka Dot Shorts (5331752) **7.10** The Silver Brumby (9960706) **7.35** Top Cat (8229042) **7.55** The Bots Master (8303058) **8.20** Help! It's the Hair Bear Bunch (8018329) **8.40** Blue Peter (9285435) **9.10** Goober and the Ghost Chasers (7913936) **9.35** Student Bodies (8678868) **10.00** Teletubbies (93058) **10.30** FILM: The Five Thousand Fingers of Dr T (9180232) **11.55** The Munsters (4087348) **12.20pm** Beautiful Things (9212226) **12.30** Working Lunch (92049) **1.00** Oakie Doke (38239077)
1.10 The Leisure Hour (r) (1768481)
2.10 Sporting Greats (89910329)
2.40 News; Weather (T) (8241481)
2.45 Westminster (T) (5097313)
3.25 News; Weather (T) (5817619)
3.30 Call My Bluff (482)
4.00 The Village (r) (7129874)
4.25 Ready, Steady, Cook (T) (7122961)
4.55 Esther (T) (9241771)
5.30 Whose House? (313)
6.00 The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air American comedy with Will Smith (r) (T) (573042)
6.25 Heartbreak High The students receive their exam results (T) (237329)



Suede talk about their forthcoming album and tour dates (7.10pm)

7.10 The O Zone Jayne Middlemiss meets Suede and Jamie Theakston gets the lowdown on Heavenli's split from Honeyz (T) (597042)
7.30 Counterblast Movement Against the Monarchy member Chris Lowe enlists the help of Dennis Skinner, MP, and the royal biographer Anthony Holden in this diatribe against the House of Windsor (T) (7023)
8.30 The Antiques Show New series. Fiona Bruce finds out how to make millions from buying and selling, Nina Campbell reveals the latest "must-haves" in collectibles, and James Breese scours the fairs in search of Twenties Bakelite (T) (9058)
9.00 Great Expectations Conclusion. Estella spurns Pip and throws herself away on a shallow marriage (T) (31738226)
10.38 Video Nation Shorts (T) (817690)
10.40 Newsnight Including a news summary at **11.00** (T) (408058)
11.25 Ice Skating: The World Championship Gala Exhibition routines (905329)
11.55 Weather (752619)
12.00 Despatch Box (55733)
12.30am BBC Learning Zone: Open University: Open Advice — Surviving the Exam **1.00** A Robot in the Parlour? **1.30** Engineering Materials: Hidden Power **2.00** Exam Revision **4.00** Languages: Deutsch Plus, 1-4 **5.00** Business and Training: Career Moves — Beauty and Complementary Therapy **5.45** Open University: History of Maths — The Vernacular Tradition **6.10** Tilings at the Alhambra **6.35** Out of the Blue?

HTV

5.30am ITV Morning News (79787)
6.00 GMTV (2868400)
9.25 Trisha (T) (3511771)
10.30 This Morning (T) (49135139)
12.15pm HTV News (T) (7081023)
12.30 ITV Lunchtime News (T) (2785077)
12.55 Shortland Street (1771955)
1.30 Lie Detector (T) (16171481)
1.55 The Jerry Springer Show (T) (5046139)
2.40 Wheel of Fortune (T) (2035394)
3.10 ITV News Headlines (T) (5809690)
3.15 HTV News (T) (5808961)
3.20 CITV: Maisy (5805874) **3.25** Rosie and Jim (6750110) **3.40** The Wombles (4096955) **3.50** Scooby and Scrappy Doo (7065874) **4.10** Snap (7135435) **4.40** The Quick Trick Show (2975481)
5.00 Lie Detector (r) (T) (5665)
5.30 WEST: Can You Keep a Secret? Michaela abseils down a church tower in north Nibley (6/7) (T) (139)
5.30 WALES: Night Owls A psychiatrist afraid of the dark (6/6) (T) (139)
5.58 HTV Weather (395706)
6.00 HTV News (T) (752)
6.25 WALES: Party Election Broadcast by Plaid Cymru (816394)
6.29 HTV Crimestoppers (816394)
6.30 ITV Evening News; Weather (T) (232)
7.00 Emmerdale Biff regrets revealing his feelings for Kathy (T) (8329)
7.30 WEST: West Eye View Regional current affairs reports. Last in series (416)
7.30 WALES: High Performance Profile of the Clwyd Theatr Cymru director, Terry Hands (5/6) (T) (416)
8.00 The Bill The key witness in a domestic assault case becomes infatuated with Ashton (T) (6058)



The happy couple? — Greg Cordell and Carla Germaine (9pm)

9.00 Two Strangers and a Wedding Second film following the fortunes of Greg Cordell and Carla Germaine (2/2) (T) (3394)
10.00 Wonderful You Clare and Marshall prepare to walk down the aisle (T) (6481)
11.00 ITV Nightly News; Weather (T) (270145)
11.20 HTV News and Weather (T) (622619)
11.35 The Thoughts of Chairman Alf with Warren Mitchell (T) (326058)
12.05am Tales from the Crypt A gold-digging waitress marries an unappealing fat man, convinced he's about to inherit a fortune. Demi Moore stars (r) (8839795)
12.35 The Haunted Fishtank (2187849)
1.05 The Jerry Springer Show (3711337)
1.50 Judge Judy (T) (3050725)
2.10 Wish You Were Here? (r) (T) (7432733)
2.40 McGilloway's Way New series of rambles around rural Ireland, with Olly McGilloway (T) (4006191)
3.05 Football Extra Highlights (r) (3553269)
4.00 ITV Sport Classics (35442676)
4.20 Coach (31842612)
4.45 Soundtrax (74361559)
4.50 ITV Nightscreen (3372820)

CENTRAL

As HTV West except:
12.20-12.30pm Central News; Weather (9209752)
12.55 Lie Detector (2697868)
1.25 The Jerry Springer Show (4861684)
2.10-2.40 Heart of the Country (89834955)
3.15-3.20 Central News (5808961)
5.30 Shortland Street (139)
6.00-6.30 Central News at Six; Weather (752)
7.30-8.00 30 Minutes (416)
11.20-11.30 Central News; Weather (807868)
11.30-12.30 Renegade (46042)
3.50am Central Jobfinder (6416269)
5.20-5.30 Asian Eye (9536066)

WESTCOUNTRY

As HTV West except:
12.15pm Westcountry News (7081023)
12.27-12.30 Illuminations (9217771)
12.55-1.25 Westcountry Lunchtime Live; Weather (2697868)
1.25 The Jerry Springer Show (4861684)
2.10-2.40 Lie Detector (89834955)
3.15-3.20 Westcountry News; Weather (5808961)
4.58-5.00 Birthday People (1392936)
5.30 Our House (139)
6.00-6.30 Westcountry Live; Weather (752)
7.30-8.00 Stranger Than Fiction (416)
11.20-11.30 Westcountry News; Weather (807868)
11.30-12.35 Renegade (311706)<ELB

MERIDIAN

As HTV West except: **12.15pm-12.30 Meridian News;** Weather (7081023) **5.30 Monkey Business** (3/7) (r) (139) **6.00-6.30 Meridian Tonight** (T) (752) **7.29 Meridian Weather** (666495) **7.30-8.00 The Plain** (4/4) (r) (T) (416) **11.20 Meridian News;** Weather (T) (807868) **11.30-12.35 Meridian Match** (311706) **5.00am-5.30 Freescreen** (T) (24424)

ANGLIA

As HTV West except: **12.14pm Anglia Air Watch** (9392416) **12.15-12.30 Anglia News and Weather** (7081023) **5.25-6.00 About Anglia** (7397918) **6.00-6.30 Anglia News** (T) (752) **7.30-8.00 Out to Lunch with Brian Turner** (416) **11.19 Anglia Air Watch** (232665) **11.20-11.30 Anglia News and Weather** (T) (807868) **12.00-12.35 Taxi** (7348646)

S4C

Starts: **6.00am Sesame Street** (r) (86295394) **7.00 The Big Breakfast** (69934435) **9.00 The Bigger Breakfast** (92174226) **9.05 Saved By the Bell** (T) (92921042) **9.30 Sam and Max** (T) (93395077) **10.00 CatDog** (62509684) **10.15 Planet Pop** (42375526) **10.45 Moesha** (T) (43725067) **11.15 The Bigger Breakfast** (25239394) **11.30 Powerhouse** (90646329) **12.00 Bewitched** (r) (T) (63302597) **12.30pm Sesame Street** (T) (93293665) **1.00 Planed Plant** (T) (69831394) **1.30 The Ocean World of John Stoneman** (r) (T) (99107665) **1.55 Racing from Newmarket** (15229023) **4.00 Fifteen-to-One** (T) (99233955) **4.30 Ricki Lake** (T) (99239139) **5.00 Planed Plant** (41604752) **5.30 Countdown** (r) (T) (99326619) **6.00 Newyddion 6** (T) (49787139) **6.10 Heno** (T) (39568684) **7.00 Pobol y Cwm** (T) (41797416) **7.30 An Electoral Broadcast** (56825619) **7.35 Newyddion** (T) (31267435) **8.05 Clwb Garddio** (T) (84613690) **8.35 Pengelli** (T) (52758955) **9.05 Talr Chwaer** (r) (54822597) **10.05 Brookside** (T) (51077955) **10.40 Queer as Folk** (8/8) (T) (92668416) **11.25 The 11 O'Clock Show** (85698313) **11.55 Smack the Pony** (T) (67366874) **12.25am The Establishment** (2/6) (T) (15207337) **12.55 The Last of the Hiding Tribes** (2/3) (T) (25298559) **2.00 Diwedd**

CHANNEL 4

5.25am Alfie Atkins (9662435)
5.35 The Pink Panther Show (2885706)
5.55 Sesame Street (r) (5971139)
7.00 The Big Breakfast (48042)
9.00 The Bigger Breakfast (3255706)
9.05 Saved By the Bell (T) (7916023)
9.30 Sam and Max (17771)
10.00 CatDog (T) (3858400)
10.20 Planet Pop (3947348)
10.45 Moesha (T) (721955)
11.15 The Bigger Breakfast (6494348)
11.30 Powerhouse (T) (3905)
12.00 Sesame Street (r) (T) (66503)
12.30pm Bewitched (r) (T) (91787)
1.00 Caroline in the City Richard says no to Del (21329)
1.30 The Three Stooges (16179023)
1.55 Racing from Newmarket Includes coverage of the **2.05** April Maiden Stakes, **2.35** NGK Spark Plugs Abernant Stakes, **3.10** Shadwell Stud Nell Gwyn Stakes and the **3.40** William Hill Handicap Stakes (69502348)
4.00 Fifteen-to-One (T) (145)
4.30 Countdown (T) (7561706)
4.55 Ricki Lake Highlights of the past 1,000 shows (T) (9243139)
5.30 Pet Rescue (T) (481)
6.00 King of the Hill Hank catches his mother in a compromising position with her boyfriend (r) (T) (394)
6.30 Home Improvement (T) (824313)
6.55 Planet Pop Music magazine (789416)
7.00 Channel 4 News; Weather (T) (901787)
7.55 The A-Z of Scotland From F for football — banned by King James IV in 1424 — to J for Jocks (T) (736139)
8.00 Brookside (T) (5619)
8.30 Classic British Cars The increase in women drivers and the makers' response to this new market (8/8) (T) (1226)
9.00 Jilted Russell England's eye-opening documentary profiling eight people who have been jilted at the altar (r) (T) (1936)
10.00 First on Four Profile of the camp comedian Julian Clary (r) (T) (67232)
10.30 CHOICE **Queer as Folk** Last in series (8/8) (T) (324042)
11.15 The 11 O'Clock Show Satirical comedy with Ian Lee (920990)



Stacey and her friends enjoy a night out in Brixton (11.45pm)

11.45 Electric Avenue Fun-loving teenager Stacey lets off steam to celebrate the end of exams (2/4) (T) (427503)
12.20am Algeria Daily (r) (5297240)
1.25 Inside Algeria (3648676)
1.55 The Wonderful Horrible Life of Leni Riefenstahl Conclusion (r) (1003658)
3.20 Brussels: Behind Closed Doors Behind the scenes of the European Commission (1/3) (r) (3565004)
4.15 Whoopee (1930) FILM A timid hypochondriac gets involved in all manner of misadventures. Musical, starring Eddie Cantor. Directed by Thornton Freeland (681849)

CHANNEL 5

6.00am 5 News and Sport (5892961)
7.00 WideWorld Part eight. Light-bulb inventor Thomas Edison (r) (T) (2759077)
7.30 Milkshake! (2547435)
7.35 Muppet Babies (4978348)
8.00 Havakazoo (r) (8678481)
8.30 Dappledown Farm (r) (8677752)
9.00 Instant Gardens (8/14) (r) (T) (8764232)
9.30 The Oprah Winfrey Show (6778329)
10.20 Sunset Beach Ben rescues Maria (T) (4154503)
11.10 Leeza (3753868)
12.00 5 News at Noon (T) (8688868)
12.30pm Family Affairs Pete offers a solution to Gabby's dilemma (r) (T); 5 News Update (7235987)
1.00 The Bold and the Beautiful Sheila is arrested (T) (2758348)
1.30 The Roseanne Show Entertainment and chat; 5 News Update (8685428)
2.00 100 Per Cent Gold (2989665)
2.30 Good Afternoon Lifestyle programmes; 5 News Update (8645435)
3.30 Moment of Truth: To Walk Again (TVM 1994) FILM Drama about a US Marine's struggle to recover from a crippling gunshot wound sustained during routine training. Blair Brown and Ken Howard star. Directed by Randall Zisk (T) (2749023)
5.20 5 News (59179077)
5.25 Russell Grant's Postcards Location report from Zurich (59178348)
5.30 100 Per Cent (6049232)
6.00 5 News; Weather Round-up of the day's stories (T) (6046145)
6.30 Family Affairs Ben learns Donna likes him (T); 5 News Update (6964597)
7.00 Knight Rider Michael is charged with murder and sets out on a perilous quest to find the only witness capable of getting him off the hook. David Hasselhoff stars (r) (2983481)
7.30 Animal Marvels Wildlife documentary (T); 5 News Update (6953481)
8.00 CHOICE **Betting: Are You Being Cheated?** The racing pundit John McCririck joins presenter Will Daws to expose the murky world of bogus bookies, phony tipster telephone lines and dodgy jockeys (2/4) (T) (2072329)
8.30 What Went Wrong? Investigation into the causes of major real-life calamities, featuring the Piper Alpha oil platform disaster that forced the crew to dive 200ft into the freezing Atlantic to escape a towering inferno, as well as a capsized craft in an Iowa river and a helicopter crash in Hawaii (2988936)
9.00 Flashfire (1993) FILM A detective unwittingly stumbles across a web of police corruption while investigating a colleague's murder. Thriller, starring Billy Zane, Louis Gossett Jr and Kristin Minter. Directed by Elliot Silverstein (T); 5 News Update (46573042)
10.35 Castaway (1986) FILM Oliver Reed and Amanda Donohoe star in this adaptation of Lucy Irvine's bestseller recounting her year-long stay on a tropical island with the publisher Gerald Kingsland. Directed by Nicolas Roeg (95891619)
12.45am Live and Dangerous Soccer action from the Dutch league (50400511)
5.30 100 Per Cent (r) (6763511)

VIDEO Plus+ and VIDEO Plus+ codes
The numbers after each programme are for VIDEO Plus+ programming. Just enter the VIDEO Plus+ number(s) for the relevant programme(s) into your video recorder for easy taping.
For more details call VIDEO Plus+ on 0640 750710. Calls charged at 25p per minute at all times
VIDEO Plus+®, 14 Blacklands Trc, London, SW3 2SP
VIDEO Plus+® is a registered trademark of Gemstar Development Corporation. © 1998

SATELLITE, CABLE AND DIGITAL

● For further listings see Saturday's *Vision*

SKY ONE

7.00am Count Duckula (80042) **7.30** Grimmy (72077) **8.00** Earthworm Jim (12706) **8.30** Godzilla (11077) **9.00** Pokemon (10459) **9.30** Simpsons (40023) **10.00** Shadow Raiders (35058) **10.30** Xena: Warrior Princess (82329) **11.30** Legend of the Hidden City (47416) **12.00** Tarzan: Epic Adventures (36874) **1.00pm** Mad About You (89313) **1.30** Jeopardy (43110) **2.00** Sally Jessy Raphael (36787) **3.00** Jenny Jones (41232) **4.00** Pokemon (7139) **4.30** Shadow Raiders (6023) **5.00** Star Trek: Deep Space Nine (7042) **6.00** America's Dumbest Criminals (5936) **6.30** Dream Team (8868) **7.00** Simpsons (8771) **7.30** Simpsons (7752) **8.00** Speed (7619) **8.30** Speed (3226) **9.00** World's Scariest Police Chases (95597) **10.00** Hot Summers Down Under (98684) **11.00** Dream Team (65868) **11.30** Star Trek: Deep Space Nine (93503) **12.30am** Law and Order (81882) **1.30** Long Play (4536269)

SKY BOX OFFICE

Sky's pay-per-view movie channels. To view any film telephone 0990 800888
SKY BOX OFFICE 1 (Transponder 51) **The Devil's Advocate (1997)**
SKY BOX OFFICE 2 (Transponder 60) **The Rainmaker (1998)**
SKY BOX OFFICE 3 (Transponder 59) **Anastasia (1997)** **Sphere (1997)**
SKY BOX OFFICE 4 (Transponder 58) **Mousehunt (1997)**

SKY PREMIER

6.00am The Incredible Journey (1963) (91705023) **7.50 Pete's Dragon (1977)** (19454110) **10.00 Larger Than Life (1996)** (53597) **12.00 The Incredible Journey (1963)** (31232) **2.00pm Give My Regards to Broad Street (1984)** (224509) **3.50 Pete's Dragon (1977)** (59072481) **6.00 Larger Than Life (1996)** (90042) **8.00 Eraser (1996)** (75787) **10.00 Event Horizon (1997)** (661481) **11.35 Extreme Measures (1996)** (533394) **1.35am Outrage (1997)** (1062530) **3.05 Flirting with Disaster (1996)** (90958356)

SKY MOVIEMAX

7.00am Freeze Frame (1992) (71394) **9.00 Licence to Drive (1988)** (30503) **11.00 The Wind in the Willows (1996)** (92771) **1.00 Married to a Stranger (1997)** (41619) **3.00 Licence to Drive (1988)** (50049) **5.00 The Wind in the Willows (1996)** (25226) **7.00 Married to a Stranger (1997)** (68874) **9.00 8 Heads in a Duffel Bag (1997)** (52348) **10.30** How to Get Ahead in Film (14110) **11.00 The People Under the Stairs (1991)** (748619) **12.45am Ravager (1997)** (116040) **2.20 Dark Angel (1996)** (1297066) **3.50 Fandango (1984)** (9218424)

SKY CINEMA

4.00pm Blockheads (1938) (7362329) **5.00** The Directors: Robert Zemeckis (7278665) **6.00 Tarzan Triumphs (1943)** (8704810) **8.00 Tony Rome (1967)** (65025329) **9.45** Cinema Nation (4518226) **10.00 Born on the Fourth of July (1989)** (60434077) **12.25am** 100 Years, 100 Movies: Family Portraits (3760849) **1.15 No Way Out (1950)** (7360917) **3.05 Pursuit to Algiers (1945)** (30222714) **4.15 Too Many Girls (1940)** (3913207)

FILMFOUR

6.00pm A Simple Twist of Fate (1994) (65347313) **7.50** Flying Over Mother (5185400) **8.00 Bob Roberts (1992)** (8333139) **10.00 Farewell, My Concubine (1993)** (62514936) **12.55am** The Typewriter, the Rifle and the Movie Camera (1112849) **1.50 The Naked Kiss (1964)** (4933511) **3.20 Pickup on South Street (1953)** (6383207) **4.45 The Brain from Planet Arous (1957)** (5334559)

TNT

9.00pm Skyjacked (1972) (93229597) **11.00 36 Hours (1964)** (99336868) **1.15am Brotherly Love (1969)** (80827240) **3.15 Skyjacked (1972)** (70255153) **5.00** Close

SKY SPORTS 1

7.00am Sports Centre **7.15** V-Max **7.45** Total Sport **8.15** You're On Sky Sports! **9.00** Racing News **9.30** Aerobics **10.00** League Review **11.00** Asian Golf **12.00** Aerobics **12.30pm** Football Special **2.30** Spanish Football **4.00** Asian Golf **5.00** Wrestling **6.00** Sports Centre **6.30** Inside Scottish Football **7.30** Fastrax **8.00** Live Greyhound Racing **10.00** Sports Centre **10.15** You're On Sky Sports! **11.00** Inside Scottish Football **12.00** Sports Centre **12.15am** Football **1.00** You're On Sky Sports! **1.00** Snooker **3.00** Fastrax **3.30** Sports Centre **3.45** Close

SKY SPORTS 2

7.00am Aerobics Style **7.30** Sports Centre **7.45** Racing News **8.15** Moto-Plus **8.45** Sports Centre **9.00** Fish TV **10.00** Ten Pin Bowling **11.00** V-Max **11.30** Powerboat and Jetsport World **12.00** Live Cricket **8.00pm** Powerboat and Jetsport World **8.30** Major League Baseball **10.30** Sports Unlimited **11.30** Rugby League Academy **12.30am** Fastrax **1.00** Australian Rules Football **3.00** Sports Centre **3.15** Close

SKY SPORTS 3

12.00am Wrestling **1.00pm** Fish TV **2.00** Golden Age of Motor Racing: A to Z of Motor Sport **2.30** Wonderful World of Golf **3.30** International Bowls **5.30** Total Sport **6.00** Rugby League Academy **7.00** Fish TV **8.00** Premier Snooker League **10.00** Boxing Superbouts **11.00** Tales from the Premiership **11.30** Close

EUROSPORT

7.30am Biathlon **8.30** Curling **10.30** Trial **11.00** Football **12.30** Equestrianism **1.30** Live Tennis **5.30** Motor Racing **6.30** Motor Racing **7.30** Live Boxing **10.00** Football **11.00** Golf **12.00** Olympic Magazine **12.30am** Close

UK GOLD

7.00am Crossroads **7.30** Neighbours **7.55** EastEnders **8.30** The Bill **9.30** The House of Eliott **10.30** Rhoda **11.00** Dallas **11.55** Neighbours **12.25pm** EastEnders **1.00** Bugs **2.00** Dallas **2.55** The Bill **3.55** EastEnders **4.30** Rhoda **5.00** All Creatures Great and Small **6.00** Dynasty **7.00** Some Mothers Do 'Ave 'Em **7.40** Last of the Summer Wine **8.20** Dad's Army **9.00** Red Dwarf **9.40** Jonathan Creek **11.30** The Bill **12.30** Between the Lines **1.25** Dad's Army **2.00** Man from Auntie **3.00** Screenshop

GRANADA PLUS

6.00am Wish Me Luck **7.00** How's Your Father **7.30** The Odd Couple **8.00** Families **8.30** Mind Your Language **9.00** Classic Coronation Street **9.30** Emmerdale **10.00** Upstairs, Downstairs **11.00** Charlie's Angels **12.00** Classic Coronation Street **12.30pm** Emmerdale **1.00** Mind Your Language **1.30** Me and My Girl **2.00** Upstairs, Downstairs **3.00** The Love Boat **4.00** The Professionals **5.00** Charlie's Angels **6.00** Emmerdale **6.30** Classic Coronation Street **7.00** The Professionals **8.00** The Benny Hill Show **9.00** The Sweeney **10.00** Hale and Pace **10.30** The Comedians **11.00** Men and Motors

A rescue mission in deep space encounters a terrifying evil force in the sci-fi horror *Event Horizon* (Sky Premier, 10pm)

CARLTON SELECT

5.00pm What's Cooking? **5.30** Gridlock **6.00** My Two Wives **6.30** Our House **7.00** Shine On, Harvey Moon **8.00** Chancer **9.00** The Upper Hand **9.30** Flying Start **10.00** Always Afternoon **11.00** Hill Street Blues **12.00** My Two Wives **12.30am** Gridlock **1.00** Close

DISNEY CHANNEL

6.00am Gummi Bears **6.25** Classic Toons **6.35** Talespin **7.00** 101 Dalmatians **7.25** Classic Toons **7.30** 101 Dalmatians **8.00** Timon and Pumbaa **8.25** Classic Toons **8.30** Timon and Pumbaa **9.00** Hercules: The TV Show **9.30** Hercules: The TV Show **10.00** Boy Meets World **10.30** Boy Meets World **11.00** Smart Guy **11.30** Smart Guy **12.00** Disney on Demand **12.30pm** Disney on Demand **1.00** Disney on Demand **1.30** Amazing Animals **1.55** New Adventures of Winnie the Pooh **2.10** Bite Size **2.20** Bear in the Big Blue House **2.45** New Adventures of Winnie the Pooh **3.00** The Little Mermaid **3.30** Art Attack **4.00** 101 Dalmatians **4.30** Hercules: The TV Show **5.00** Recess **5.15** Pepper Ann **5.30** Smart Guy **6.00** Teen Angel **6.30** Boy Meets World **7.00 FILM: Cinderella (1997)** **8.25** Honey I Shrunk the Kids: The TV Show **9.10** Dinosaurs **10.00** Home Improvement **10.30** The Wonder Years **11.00** Dr Quinn Medicine Woman **11.50** Classic Toons **12.00** Close

FOX KIDS NETWORK

6.00am Power Rangers Turbo **6.30** Power Rangers Turbo **6.55** Spiderman **7.20** Oggy and the Cockroaches **7.30** Dennis and Gnasher **8.00** Hero Turtles: The Next Mutation **8.25** The Incredible Hulk **8.50** Iron Man **9.15** Fantastic Four **9.40** X-Men **10.05** Casper **10.30** Oggy and the Cockroaches **10.55** Eek!Stravaganza **11.05** Bobby's World **11.30** Life with Louie **11.55** Home to Rent **12.05pm** The Secret Files of the Spy Dogs **12.30** Donkey Kong Country **1.00** Mowgli: The New Adventures of the Jungle Book **1.25** Ace Ventura **1.55** The Incredible Hulk **2.20** Iron Man **2.45** Fantastic Four **3.10** X-Men **3.30** X-Press **3.35** Spiderman **4.00** Goosebumps **4.25** Hero Turtles: The Next Mutation **5.00** Dennis and Gnasher **5.30** Ace Ventura **6.00** Donkey Kong Country **6.30** Eek!Stravaganza **6.55** Oggy and the Cockroaches **7.00** Close

NICKELODEON

6.00am Extreme Ghostbusters **6.30** Bruno the Kid **7.00** CatDog **7.30** Rugrats **8.00** Hey Arnold! **8.30** Doug **9.00** Children's BBC **10.00** Wimzie's House **10.30** Papa Beaver Stories **11.00** The Magic School Bus **11.30** PB Bear/Animal Antics/Family Ness **12.00** Rugrats **12.30pm** Blue's Clues **1.00** Bananas in Pyjamas **1.30** Franklin **2.00** Paddington Bear/Lizzie's Library/Portland Bill/Mr Men/Ivor the Engine **2.30** Children's BBC **3.00** Children's BBC **3.30** Doug **4.00** Angry Beavers **4.30** Rugrats **5.00** Sister Sister **5.30** Kenan and Kel **6.00** Sabrina the Teenage Witch **6.30** The Secret Life of Alex Mack **7.00** Close

TROUBLE

7.00am USA High **7.30** City Guys **8.00** Saved by the Bell: The New Class **8.30** Hang Time **9.00** Tempestt **9.50** On the Make **10.00** Echo Point **10.30** Hollyoaks **11.00** Sweet Valley High **11.30** Ready or Not **12.00** The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air **12.30pm** Weird Science **1.00** In the House **1.30** Tempestt **2.20** On the Make **2.30** Hollyoaks **3.00** Ready or Not **3.30** City Guys **4.00** The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air **4.30** Weird Science **5.00** In the House **5.30** Saved by the Bell: The New Class **6.00** Sweet Valley High **6.30** Rush **6.45** Bangs **7.00** USA High **7.30** Hang Time

BRAVO

8.00pm Martial Law **9.00** Cops **9.30** The Late Lounge **10.00** Extreme Championship Wrestling **10.30** Erotic Confessions **11.00 FILM: Warlock (1989)** **1.00am** Erotic Confessions **1.30** The Late Lounge **2.00** Martial Law **3.00 FILM: Dr Alien (1988)** **5.00** Extreme Championship Wrestling **5.30** Cops **6.00** Close

PARAMOUNT COMEDY

7.00pm Clueless **7.30** Caroline in the City **8.00** Mad About You **8.30** Spin City **9.00** Drop the Dead Donkey **9.30** Whose Line is it Anyway? **10.00** Frasier **10.30** Cheers **11.00** Seinfeld **11.30** Spin City **12.00** Late Night with David Letterman **1.00am** Garry Shandling's Show **1.30** Nurses **2.00** Almost Perfect **2.30** Tibs and Fibs **3.00** Mork and Mindy **3.30** Abbott and Costello **4.00** Close

THE SCI-FI CHANNEL

SATELLITE: 6pm-MIDNIGHT ONLY

7.30am Bloomberg Information Television **8.00** Sightings **9.00** Buck Rogers in the 25th Century **10.00** The Six Million Dollar Man **11.00** Dark Shadows **11.30** New Alfred Hitchcock **12.00** The Twilight Zone **1.00pm** Tales of the Unexpected **2.00** Amazing Stories **2.30** Mysteries, Magic and Miracles **3.00** Buck Rogers in the 25th Century **4.00** Incredible Hulk **5.00** Sightings **6.00** Space Precinct **7.00** The Six Million Dollar Man **8.00** V **9.00** Twin Peaks **10.00 FILM: 20,000 Leagues Under the Sea** **11.40** Sci-Focus Special **12.00** PSI Factor: Chronicles of the Paranormal **1.00am FILM: Bombshell (1996)** **3.00** Dark Shadows **3.30** Dark Shadows **4.00** Close

HOME & LEISURE

6.00am Simply Painting **6.30** Instant Gardens **7.00** Garden Calendar **7.30** Restoration Game **8.00** Australia's Strangest Home Improvements **8.30** The Close Guide **9.00** Joy of Painting **9.30** Grassroots **10.00** Instant Gardens **10.30** Antiques Trail **11.00** Hooked on Fishing with Paul Young **11.25** The Home and Leisure House **11.30** Total Fishing with Matt Hayes **12.00** Those Four Walls **12.30pm** Our House Down Under **1.00** The Furniture Guys **1.30** Home Savvy **2.00** New Yankee Workshop **2.30** Home Again with Bob Vila **3.00** This Old House **3.30** Two's Country: Eastern Europe

DISCOVERY

4.00pm Rex Hunt Fishing Adventures **4.30** The Diceman **5.00** Connections **6.00** Wildlife SOS **6.30** Untamed Amazonia **7.30** Flightline **8.00** Black Box **9.00** Crocodile Hunter **9.30** Crocodile Hunter **10.00** Fighting the G-Force **11.00** Extreme Machines **12.00** Speed **1.00am** Flightline **1.30** The Diceman **2.00** Close

ANIMAL PLANET

12.00am Hollywood Safari **1.00pm** Nature Watch with Julian Pettifer **1.30** Animals in Danger **2.00** Wild at Heart **2.30** Champions of the Wild **3.00** Hunters **4.00** Rediscovery of the World **5.00** Wild Rescues **6.00** Pet Rescue **7.00** Wildlife SOS **7.30** Wildlife SOS **8.00** Animal Doctor **9.00** Emergency Vets **9.30** Emergency Vets **10.00** Emergency Vets **10.30** Emergency Vets **11.00** Emergency Vets **11.30** Emergency Vets **12.00** Close

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

7.00pm The Monkey Player **7.30** Mirrorworld **8.30** The Third Planet **9.00** Natural Born Killers: Water Wolves **10.00** The Shark Files: Deep Water, Deadly Game **11.00** Wildlife Adventures: Legends of the Bushmen **12.00** The Shark Files: Married with Sharks

HISTORY

4.00pm Secrets of War: Korea — Stalin's Secret Air War **5.00** Gunboats of Vietnam **6.00** Legends of the Werewolves **6.55** Photos for the Future **7.00** Chairman Mao

CARLTON FOOD

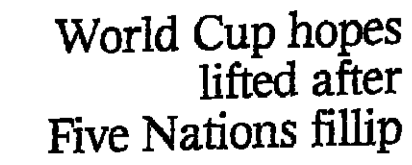
9.00am Food Network Daily **9.30** Coxon's Kitchen College **10.00** The Green Gourmet **10.30** So You Think You Can't Cook **11.00** Worrall Thompson Cooks **11.30** Ideal Home Cooks **12.00** Food Network Daily **12.30pm** Loyd's Louisiana **1.00** Coxon's Kitchen College **1.30** Thoroughly Modern British **2.00** Simply Baking **2.30** Food Network Daily **3.00** Nordic Nosh **3.30** Ideal Home Cooks **4.00** Tessa's Tastebuds **4.30** Lunch with Ed Baines **5.00** Close

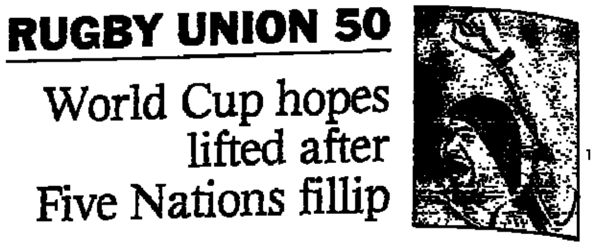
LIVING

6.00 Tiny Living **9.30** Home and Away **10.00** The Jerry Springer Show **10.50** Maury Povich **11.40** Brookside **12.10pm** Through the Keyhole **12.40** Rescue 911 **1.10** Beyond Belief: Fact or Fiction **1.40** Maury Povich **2.30** Special Babies **3.00** Living Room **3.50** Michael Cole **4.40** Home and Away **5.10** Through the Keyhole **5.40** Can't Cook, Won't Cook **6.15** The Jerry Springer Show **7.05** Rescue 911 **7.35** Animal Rescue **8.00** LA Law **9.00 FILM: Sophie and the Moonhanger (1995)** **11.00** Sex Files **12.00** Close

ZEE TV

5.00am Punjabi Folk Songs **5.30** Old is Gold **6.00** Aap Ki Farmaish **6.30** Usha Uthup Show **7.00** Faith **7.30** Daily News **8.00** Out and About **8.30** Tara 2 **9.00** Hasratein **10.00** Stage Plays **11.00** Khana Khazana **11.30** Sharjah Cup 1999: India v Pakistan **3.00pm** Cine Magic **3.30** Sharjah Cup 1999: England v Pakistan **7.30** Chalo Cinema **8.00** News **8.30** Teacher **9.00** Zee Addicts **9.30** Zanjeeren **10.00** Hadd Kar Di **10.30** Mahabharat **11.30** Yaadon Ka Rang **12.00** News **12.30am** Pakistan Business Week **1.00** Bangla TV **1.30** Parivartan **2.00 FILM: Urdu Movie: Naukar** **4.30** Lolly-Pop





MOTOR RACING 44
Fortune favours Frentzen over luckless Hill

SPORT

RUGBY UNION 50
World Cup hopes lifted after Five Nations fillip

Ealham helps to avoid record

England fly home with hollow victory

FROM RICHARD HOBSON IN SHARJAH

SHARJAH (England won toss): England beat Pakistan by 62 runs

AFTER seven successive defeats, any victory will be celebrated as though it were the glorious conclusion of an important event. This win yesterday, against a diffident Pakistan side, hardly signifies that England's plans for the World Cup are back on course, but at least they will not enter the tournament with a record-equalling eight successive one-day losses to their name.

When Vince Wells held the final catch to dismiss Shoaib Akhtar, the Leicestershire all-rounder threw the ball high into the air and rushed to the wicket, where the fielders embraced in relief as much as joy. Although England will fly home tomorrow still having failed to reach the final of the Coca-Cola Cup, their faces will not be quite so long.

Members of the 15-man squad will return to their counties before regrouping on May 2 for a training camp ahead of the matches against Kent, Essex and Hampshire that precede the opening game of the World Cup, against Sri Lanka on May 14. It remains to be seen whether the selectors' thinking will change as a result of the largely disappointing events of the past week here.

The squad itself is set in stone, but the emergence of Andrew Flintoff has to be weighed against a decline in the form of Robert Croft and Adam Hollioake, while the batting of Alec Stewart is a cause for concern. At least, after a poor series, Mark Ealham returned figures of four for 30 to win the man-of-the-match award yesterday.

Pakistan were penalised two overs in reply to a target of 207 because of a slow over-rate and the fact that Wasim Akram declined to bowl his full quota revealed much about his side's attitude to the contest. When Flintoff bowled Moin in his first over to end a troublesome sixth-wicket partnership, the Pakistan lower order offered flimsy resistance and succumbed to 144 all out with 7.2 overs to go, some 40 minutes ahead of the scheduled finish.

A sparse crowd of little more than 2,000 reflected the redundancy of the fixture. Not even a strong expatriate Pakistani community could muster enthusiasm for what they clearly anticipated would be another straightforward win. The final against India on Friday, a repeat of the last group game tonight, will not be played in such a funereal atmosphere.

England enjoyed the advantage of batting first for the only time in the tournament. It enabled them to field in the relative comfort of temperatures below 30C. With the pitch, being used for the third time in less than a week, now slow enough to militate against strokemakers, the total provided an opportunity to earn the first points of the tournament, albeit belatedly.

At 86 for five in the 24th over, it appeared that England were about to set a far easier target. The selectors here — David Graveney, David Lloyd and Stewart — altered the batting order again and while Neil Fairbrother at least saw himself promoted after the debacle against India on Sunday, No 7 is still too low for England's best limited-overs batsman.

Knight chipped Shoaib to mid-wicket and Stewart, again uneasy, sliced to backward point, where Ijaz held a good, low catch. A direct hit by the same fielder accounted for Wells before Azhar, a deceptively handy bowler, baffled Hick with a slower ball and then saw Flintoff push down the wrong line two balls later. It was left to Thorpe and Fairbrother to engineer a recovery.

Ealham responded to the challenge of lifting England from 129 for six with his best innings of the tour. He gave the necessary support to Thorpe in a 63-run partnership before Shoaib returned to the attack. The fast bowler from Rawalpindi found reverse swing to york Thorpe for 62, compiled from 80 balls, and, in his next over, bowled Ealham with a fast, straight ball to finish with four for 37. Here, it seems, is one of the potential stars of the World Cup.

CRICKET 99

Free with The Times today a 16-page guide to the season, including the launch of Fantasy League Cricket World Cup, a preview of the domestic season and county-by-county prospects.

SCOREBOARD FROM SHARJAH

England won toss

ENGLAND

N V Knight c Wasim b Shoaib (35 balls, 3 fours)	26
***†A J Stewart c Ijaz b Shoaib** (33 balls)	11
V J Wells run out (Ijaz) (20 balls)	3
G A Hick b Mahmood (33 balls, 1 four)	24
G P Thorpe b Shoaib (80 balls, 3 fours)	62
A Flintoff b Mahmood (2 balls)	0
N H Fairbrother c Wasti b Arshad (38 balls, 1 four)	25
M A Ealham b Shoaib (47 balls, 2 fours)	36
I D Austin run out (Malik/Moin) (1 ball)	1
D Gough c Afridi b Saqlain (8 balls)	5
A R C Fraser not out (0 balls)	0
Extras (lb 6, w 5, nb 2)	13
Total (49.1 overs, 220min)	206

FALL OF WICKETS 1-42 (Stewart 10), 2-43 (Wells 0), 3-60 (Hick 14), 4-86 (Thorpe 13), 5-86 (Thorpe 13), 6-129 (Thorpe 30), 7-192 (Ealham 29), 8-193 (Ealham 29), 9-206 (Gough 5)

BOWLING: Wasim Akram 7-0-25-0 (nb 2, w 1, 1 four, one spell). **Shoaib Akhtar 10-1-37-4** (w 2, 3 fours, 6-1-20-2, 4-0-17-2). **Saqlain Mushtaq 9.1-0-41-1** (w 1, 3 fours, 5-0-24-0, 4-1-0-17-1). **Azhar Mahmood 10-1-37-2** (2 fours, one spell). **Arshad Khan 9-0-40-1** (1 four, one spell). **Shahid Afridi 4-0-20-0** (one spell).

PAKISTAN

Wajahatullah Wasti c Thorpe b Fraser (53 balls, 4 fours)	31
Shahid Afridi c Wells b Gough (10 balls)	3
Ijaz Ahmed c Knight b Fraser (13 balls, 3 fours)	16
Inzamam-ul-Haq lbw b Fraser (14 balls)	5
Salim Malik not out (77 balls, 1 six, 1 four)	47
Azhar Mahmood c Wells b Ealham (21 balls, 2 fours)	13
†Moin Khan b Flintoff (37 balls, 1 six, 1 four)	23
***Wasim Akram lbw b Ealham** (8 balls)	2
Saqlain Mushtaq b Ealham (7 balls)	0
Arshad Khan lbw b Ealham (1 ball)	0
Shoaib Akhtar c Wells b Flintoff (2 balls)	0
Extras (lb 1, w 2, nb 1)	4
Total (40.2 overs, 172min)	144

FALL OF WICKETS 1-12 (Wasti 7), 2-34 (Wasti 12), 3-55 (Wasti 28), 4-72 (Malik 14), 5-91 (Malik 19), 6-138 (Malik 43), 7-141 (Malik 44), 8-143 (Malik 46), 9-143 (Malik 46)

BOWLING: Gough 8-1-39-1 (nb 1, w 1, 5 fours, 6-0-32-1, 2-1-7-0). **Fraser 10-2-32-3** (4 fours, one spell). **Austin 8-0-21-0** (w 1, one spell). **Ealham 10-0-30-4** (2 fours; one spell). **Wells 2-0-18-0** (2 sixes, one spell). **Flintoff 2.2-0-3-2** (one spell)

Match award: M A Ealham
Umpires: D B Hair (Australia) and K T Francis (Sri Lanka)
Third umpire: I D Robinson (Zimbabwe)
Referee: S Wettimuny (Sri Lanka)

☐ Compiled by Bill Frindall

CLIVE MASON / ALLSPORT



Gough launches a loud but unsuccessful appeal for leg-before against Ijaz during England's 62-run triumph yesterday

Sutton's injury strikes him out

BY STEPHEN WOOD

CHRIS SUTTON, the Blackburn Rovers striker, is not expected to play again this season after conceding defeat in his battle against a groin injury. His absence is another grievous blow to Blackburn's aim of avoiding relegation from the FA Carling Premiership and casts doubt on his own hopes of playing for England before their next European qualifying matches against Sweden and Bulgaria in June.

Sutton's season had been blighted already by injury and suspension, but, a month ago, it appeared that the worst might have passed. He returned to the fray at Ewood Park and was recalled to the England squad. However, it was while Sutton was with England, before the European championship qualifying match against Poland last month, that the full extent of his injury unfolded.

Promotion hopefuls 47
Fantasy League 46

Sutton injured his groin initially in Blackburn's 3-1 league win against Wimbledon and, although he joined up with the international squad, he withdrew before the Poland encounter. Subsequently, he completed two full club games — against Middlesbrough and Arsenal — but it was clear that he was not fully fit.

Brian Kidd, the Blackburn manager, has said many times that the "mere presence of Sutton" lifts those around him. That is why he has been pressed into action while carrying the problem, but Blackburn acknowledged yesterday that they could no longer put their striker at risk of sustaining a more serious injury.

Sutton will not need an operation, but, with only six games remaining, it is unlikely that remedial treatment will heal the problem quickly enough for him to return before the season's end.

Everton are hoping that Rob Harris, the referee in their Premiership match against Coventry City on Sunday, will reconsider his decision to dismiss Marco Materrazzi, their defender. Materazzi received a second yellow card for a challenge on Darren Huckerby, but video replays appear to show that no contact was made.

Armchair fans keep watching right through to the last putt

The Grand National held the main attraction for sporting couch potatoes, John Goodbody reports

THERE were so many competing sporting events on British television over the past weekend that only the Grand National attracted more than ten million viewers.

With audiences juggling two FA Cup semi-finals, the final round of the Five Nations Championship, the Brazilian Grand Prix, Naseem Hamed's defence of his featherweight world title and the concluding two days of the Masters, it was almost inevitable that many viewers would have had enough long before José Maria Olazábal holed the winning putt at Augusta — yet still there were more than two million people watching that moment, even if the time was 12.15am.

The Grand National always enjoys a high audience, partly because it lasts just over eight minutes, thus attracting a passing interest from much of the population. In 1998, the race was the only non-football event to make the top ten British viewing figures — in World Cup year — with an audience of 11.4 million. This year, it had 10.2 million.

An average of 2.3 million watched BBC2 on Saturday to see Scotland beat France in Paris in the Five Nations, while an average of five million viewers saw Wales beat England so dramatically in the other match on Sunday. Usually Five Nations games on Saturdays — and certainly those involving England — have attracted an average of more than six million viewers on terrestrial television.

The game between Wales and England at Wembley had the advantage of being on BBC1 and screened at 4pm on a Sunday, which has a bigger potential target audience.

One reason for the relatively low figure from Wembley was that ITV was screening simultaneously the FA Cup semi-final between Newcastle United and Tottenham Hotspur, a match that drew an average of 5.9 million viewers. The Manchester United v Arsenal tie, which was played at lunchtime on Sunday, drew an average of 1.7 million subscribers to Sky Television. However, the figures for that first semi-final were among the top ten for domestic matches this season.

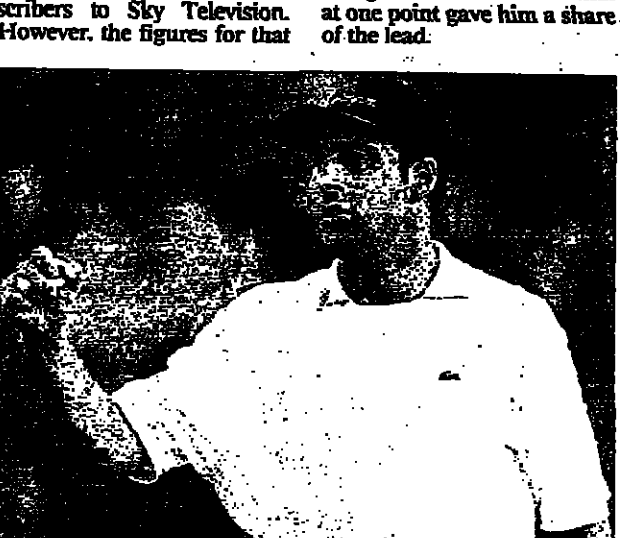
ITV must have been heartened by the 5.45pm start to the Brazilian Grand Prix, a race that had an average audience of 7.5 million. This was almost twice the usual number that watch grands prix in Europe, when the races are televised in early afternoon.

Coverage of the Masters began at 9pm on BBC2 and averaged 3.1 million over more than three hours, perhaps because of Lee Westwood's early charge in the final round that at one point gave him a share of the lead.

WATCHING BRIEF

Average figures first; then peak (all figures in millions)

ITV	
Sunday 3pm	
Newcastle v Spurs	5.9m/7.9m
Sunday 5.45pm	
Brazilian Grand Prix	7.5m/8.5m
BBC	
Saturday BBC2, 2.15pm	
France v Scotland	2.3m/2.9m
Saturday BBC1, 3.45pm	
Grand National	10.2m/10.2m
Sunday BBC1, 4pm	
Wales v England	5m/6.9m
Sunday BBC2, 9pm	
Masters conclusion	3.1m/3.6m
Sky Sports 2	
Sunday 12.30pm	
Man Utd v Arsenal	1.7m/2m



More than two million people were glued to their sets when Olazábal won the Masters early yesterday

TIMES TWO CROSSWORD

No 1690

ACROSS
1 Evacuate: drop (7)
5 Sparkling vigour (5)
8 Roughly *(Lat.)* (5)
9 Day of Christmas drummers sent (7)
10 Lazy (8)
11 Indistinct sight (4)
13 Comprehensive reference book (13)
16 Month named for J. Caesar (4)
17 Miserable, pitiable (8)
20 Kabul monetary unit (7)
21 Make more interesting (5)
22 Smooth, unctuous (5)
23 Vital, defining quality (7)

DOWN
1 Assign authorship (to) (7)
2 Unpleasantly pungent (5)
3 Impasse (8)
4 Absolutely no way! (3,2,4,4)
5 Change direction (clockwise) (4)
6 Discomposed (7)
7 Imaginary interstellar medium (5)
12 Capt. Nemo's submarine *(Verne)* (8)
14 German city; toilet water (7)
15 Still firm (when cooked) (2,5)
16 Denims (5)
18 Port of safety (5)
19 Soak up sun (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 1689
ACROSS: 1 Steamed up 6 Elf 8 Peter 9 Berners 10 Befell 12 Get on 13 Little 14 Bright 17 Orion 19 Licked 21 Stadium 22 Putti 23 PTO 24 Edinburgh
DOWN: 1 Sops 2 Entreat 3 Mar 4 Dabble 5 Paregoric 6 Elect 7 Fishnet 11 Eglantine 13 Looks up 15 Greater 16 Alumni 18 Imago 20 Dish 22 Pub

THE TIMES BOOKSHOP

NEW TIMES CROSSWORD BOOK AVAILABLE!

The Times Two Crosswords Book 8 is now available, at £3.50 inc. p&p. Call 0990 134 459 for credit card orders, or send a cheque payable to News Books, to The Times Bookshop, PO Box 345, Falmouth TR11 2YX

MORSE

One small step.

One giant leap.

The new N-Class server from Hewlett-Packard is the first computer in the world that's ready for the new Intel IA-64 processor.

64-bit computing is the future. It's not just about higher performance. Intel IA-64 will let companies use just one processor architecture throughout the enterprise, meaning lower administration and support costs.

Call for our Executive Briefing, or visit:

www.morse.com/hp

HEWLETT PACKARD

Morse Data
0800 228888. www.morse.com/hp